

# Early Childhood Education and Care in Canada 2014

MARTHA FRIENDLY • BETHANY GRADY • LYNSDAY MACDONALD • BARRY FORER



CHILDCARE RESOURCE AND RESEARCH UNIT

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**CHILDCARE RESOURCE  
AND RESEARCH UNIT**

Childcare Resource and Research Unit

[www.childcarecanada.org](http://www.childcarecanada.org)

December 2015

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Barry Forer  
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## ■ ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

*Early childhood education and care in Canada*, a compilation of cross-Canada data on early childhood education and care and associated information, has been published about every two years since the early 1990s (1992, 1995, 1998, 2001, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2012). Note that the 2010 version, titled *Public investments in early childhood education and care in Canada 2010* was developed by the Childcare Resource and Research Unit but published by the Government of Canada using the same methods and format. These publications were available in print through 2008 and versions from 1998 onwards are available at no cost for download on the CRRU website.

The availability of these data collected using a consistent format and methodology over time and across Canada have made it possible to identify trends and reflect on similarities and differences in ECEC across Canada over time and across provincial/territorial boundaries. Note, however, that issues related to data and resource availability have meant that—although core provincial/territorial data about spaces and funding have been provided in every edition of ECEC in Canada—other information (for example, about federal programs and funding) have been absent from recent versions as well as this edition.

A report titled *Preliminary data: Early childhood education and care in Canada 2014* was published in October 2015. This full version of *ECEC in Canada 2014* incorporates the preliminary data.

## ■ ABOUT THE CHILDCARE RESOURCE AND RESEARCH UNIT

The Childcare Resource and Research Unit is a policy research institute focused on early childhood education and child care (ECEC) and family policy. CRRU has a commitment to a universal, high quality, publicly-funded, not-for-profit, inclusive ECEC system and works collaboratively with other researchers, NGOs, advocacy groups and government policy makers on ECEC and other family policy.

One of CRRU's basic operating premises is that public policy should be based on the best possible evidence about policy and practice available from multidisciplinary research and policy analysis.

All CRRU publications including this document may be downloaded at no fee from our website at [www.childcarecanada.org/](http://www.childcarecanada.org/).

## ■ METHODS

Most of the information on regulated child care and kindergarten in this report was provided by provincial/territorial government officials. The method used to collect and verify data on regulated child care from each province/territory followed a series of steps. First, a written template was sent to each self-identified official with key responsibility. Following a review of the returned data by the researchers, clarification was sought from relevant jurisdictions where necessary. A draft was then compiled using material provided by government officials and other sources where applicable. Provincial/territorial officials vetted the completed sections. Statistics Canada sources were used for demographic data.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and consistency of the data provided in this publication and to use accurate and consistent terminology and categories across provinces/territories. This was not always possible due to the use of different terminologies, categories, data collection methods and missing information across Canada. In some instances, information that is consistent by date or definition was not available. Where this has occurred, dates and explanations have been provided or noted in the text or footnotes. The authors would appreciate being contacted if any discrepancies are found.

## ■ DATA SOURCES

Most of the data about ECEC programs in each province/territory was supplied and verified by provincial/territorial officials who have responsibility for early childhood education and care.

### OTHER SOURCES:

#### **Number of children 0–12 years**

Special tabulation based on the Labour Force Survey, 2014 Annual Average. Conducted by Statistics Canada

#### **Children 0–12 Years with employed mothers**

Special tabulation based on the Labour Force Survey, 2014 Annual Average. Conducted by Statistics Canada

#### **Number of children 0–12 Years**

Special tabulation based on the Labour Force Survey, 2014 Annual Average. Conducted by Statistics Canada

#### **Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child**

Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2014 annual), CANSIM Table 282-0211

#### **Children 0–14 Years Identifying with an Aboriginal Group**

Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey, Catalogue #99-011-x2011 026.

These data on the number of children identifying with an Aboriginal group from the 2011 National Household Survey may or may not be comparable to data in previous editions of *Early childhood education and care in Canada*, which came from Long-form Census data.

#### **Parent fees in selected large cities**

Macdonald, D. and Friendly, M. (2014). *The parent trap: Child care fees in Canada's biggest cities*. Ottawa: Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

#### **Average staff wages**

Flanagan, K., Beach, J. & Varmuza, P. (2013). *You bet we still care. A survey of centre-based early childhood education and care in Canada: Highlights report*. Ottawa: Child Care Human Resources Sector Council. Territorial specific data was not available due to the small number of responses.

#### **Public spending on K-12**

Neven Van Pelt, D., & Emes, J. (2015). *Education Spending in Canada: What's Actually Happening?* Vancouver, B.C.: Fraser Institute. These figures are calculated using a Statistics Canada special run.



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# Newfoundland and Labrador



## OVERVIEW

Newfoundland and Labrador made some significant changes to early childhood education and care, creating a new Department of Education and Early Childhood Development that includes kindergarten, regulated child care and family resource programs. The new department's Family and Child Development branch has the responsibility for child care and family resource programs.

The province has developed a ten year child care strategy (2012 - 2022) [Caring For Our Future: Provincial Strategy for Quality, Sufficient and Affordable Child Care in Newfoundland and Labrador](#) that builds on three key pillars: quality, sufficiency and affordability.

Kindergarten is provided on a part-day basis for all five year olds; attendance is not compulsory. Centre-based child care is mostly operated on a for-profit basis, with some non-profit centres and several publicly-operated programs. Both agency and individually licensed family child care models of regulation are used.

## PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

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### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	4,300
1	4,400
2	4,800
3	4,500
4	5,500
5	4,400
6	5,800
7	4,700
8	5,600
9	5,400
10	5,600
11	5,200
12	4,700
Total	64,800

---

### Number of children 0-12 years (aggregated) (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	13,500
3-5	14,400
6-12	37,000
Total	64,800

---

### Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	2,600
1	2,600
2	2,600
3	2,300
4	3,200
5	2,300
6	3,400
7	3,000
8	3,600
9	3,100
10	3,800
11	3,500
12	3,100
Total	39,200

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**Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (aggregated) (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age	Number of children
0-2	7,800
3-5	7,800
6-12	23,500
Total	39,200

---

**Number of children 0-14 years identifying with an Aboriginal group (2011)**

Age	First Nations	Metis	Inuit	Multiple	Other	Total
0-4	1,340	530	465	15	140	2,485
5-9	1,405	675	565	10	225	2,875
10-14	1,485	590	550	20	155	2,795
Total	4,225	1,790	1,575	40	520	8,155

---

**Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age of youngest child	Number of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-2	8,500	69.7
3-5	6,900	69.0
6-15	21,400	81.4

---

**FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE****Maternity leave**

Seventeen weeks.

**Parental leave**

Thirty-five weeks available to both parents.

**Adoption leave**

Seventeen weeks of adoption leave to which can be added 35 weeks of parental leave.

*Note: Paid maternity and parental leave provisions are divided between federal and provincial/territorial governments. All leave provisions are set under employment standards legislation by provinces/territories. The federal government benefit for these leaves pays for up to 15 weeks of maternity leave and 35 weeks of parental leave/ adoptive leave (either parent) for new parents eligible under Employment Insurance rules. In all jurisdictions except Quebec (which has its own approach), the benefit is paid at a rate of 55% of earned income to a maximum of \$524/week (2015).*

## KINDERGARTEN

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Department of Education  
Division of Program Development  
P.O. Box 8700  
St John's, NL, A1B 4J6  
Telephone: (709) 729-1840  
Website: [www.gov.nl.ca/edu/](http://www.gov.nl.ca/edu/)

### LEGISLATION

Newfoundland and Labrador. House of Assembly.  
*Schools Act*. 1997. (Amended 1999, 2000, 2001). S.N.L  
1997 c. S-12.2.

### AGE ELIGIBILITY

Five years old by December 31.

### COMPULSORY

Kindergarten is not compulsory in Newfoundland and Labrador. A legislated right of access mandates provision of kindergarten in every school.

### HOURS

There is an average of 2.5 hours of instructional time per day. Many schools rotate between morning and afternoon attendance on a bi-weekly or monthly basis.

### CLASS SIZE

There is a provincial class size limit of 20 in kindergarten.

### TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Qualification requirements: B.Ed. or a B.A. plus one year of post-degree study in education.

There is no requirement for training in early childhood education.

## CURRICULUM

[Completely Kindergarten: Kindergarten Curriculum Guide – Interim Edition](#)

### SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN

K-12 per pupil spending \$12,754

## REGULATED CHILD CARE

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development  
Family and Child Development Branch  
3rd Floor, West Block Confederation Building,  
P.O. Box 8700  
St. John's, NL, A1B 4J6  
Telephone: (709) 729-5960  
Website: [www.ed.gov.nl.ca/edu/family/](http://www.ed.gov.nl.ca/edu/family/)

### LEGISLATION

Newfoundland and Labrador. House of Assembly.  
*Child Care Services Act*. — SNL 1998, chapter c-11.1, amended 1999 c22 s6, 2001 c36.  
Newfoundland and Labrador. House of Assembly.  
*Child Care Services Regulation 37/99*, revised March 2007.

### CHILD CARE SERVICES

#### UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

##### Unregulated family child care

Maximum number of children permitted: Four, including the provider's own children under 13 years. If all are under 24 months, maximum is three children.

##### Unregulated group programs

Programs for no more than six children for no more than nine hours a week, or for an unspecified number of children for no more than six hours a day for fewer than eight weeks in a 12-week period.

## REGULATED CHILD CARE

### **Child care centres**

Centre-based care for more than six children under 13 years between the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 8:30 p.m. Centres may be full-day or part-day.

### **School-age child care centres**

Centre-based care outside school hours for school-aged children under 13 years.

### **Family child care**

Care in the home of the provider for up to six children (up to eight children under special circumstances) including the provider's own children not attending school on a full-time basis.

## CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

A curriculum framework is in development.

## CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Newfoundland and Labrador has a written policy regarding children with special needs.

Inclusion supports may be available to centres and family child care providers who require them to include children with special needs in the regular programming of the centre or home. The level of support depends on the needs of the child.

Each of the four regions of the province has a Child Care Services Inclusion Consultant available to advise and support licensees and providers on how to include children with special needs. The licensee also has access to funding to employ a staff member in addition to the minimum staff-child ratio requirements if recommended by the Inclusion Consultant or may be funded to employ a child-specific support staff. The licensee/provider may be funded to have a vacant space to reduce the number of children in the room or family child care home.

Parents do not pay for additional supports for a child with special needs that are provided in a regulated child care centre or home.

Funding is available for substitute staff to allow regular staff to attend meetings related to a child with special needs.

There are no special training requirements for staff working with children with special needs. The Inclusion Consultants provide training/workshops to child care practitioners on an as-needed basis.

One regulated centre, Daybreak Parent/Child Centre, works exclusively with approximately 59 at-risk children and their families. This centre receives base (core) funding from the province.

## ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

There is one licensed centre in Miawpukek First Nation at Conne River.

There are additional centres under the federal First Nations and Inuit Child Care Initiative (FNICCI) funding, serving largely Innu and Inuit communities in coastal Labrador, including Sheshatshui, Hopedale, and Nain. First Nations and Inuit licensed child care centres receive the same provincial funding as other centres in the province and parents are eligible for fee subsidies.

Aboriginal Head Start funds projects in Hopedale, Sheshatshiu and Happy Valley-Goose Bay. These programs are not considered to provide "child care" and are not subject to licensing requirements.

On December 1, 2005, the Nunatsiavut Government was established pursuant to the self-government provisions of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement. The provincial government continues to license Nunatsiavut child care centres, which have the same rights and responsibilities as other child care centres in the province. The Nunatsiavut Government (Department of Health and Social Development) operates two centres – one in Hopedale and one in Nain.

## SPACE STATISTICS (2012)

Note: All space statistics below are from 2012. More recent data were not available.

### Number of regulated child care spaces

<i>Centre-based</i>			
Age group	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Infant (birth-24 months)	90	-	90
Preschool (24 months – school entry age)	5,108	440	5,548
School-age (Stand alone)	-	957	957
<i>Total centre-based spaces</i>	5,198	1,397	6,595
<i>Total family child care</i>			605
<b>Total number of regulated spaces</b>			7,200

### Children with special needs in regulated child care

Statistics are not kept on total number of children with special needs attending typical child care facilities but approximately 322 children with special needs received a fee subsidy.

There are also 48 children with special needs at Daybreak Parent/Child Centre, which receives core funding.

Quality and Inclusive Practice (EQUIP) is a voluntary, on-site collaborative consultation program for child care centres. Its aim is to assess and enhance the quality and inclusive practices of child care centres by promoting early learning opportunities and increasing professional support services.

<b>Children receiving fee subsidies</b>	2,468
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### Number of child care programs

<i>Centres</i>	
Full day	137
Part day nursery school	37
Stand-alone school age	18
<b>Total centre-based</b> (includes school-based child care centres)	192
For infants	2
For preschool and school-age	19
For school-age	21
<i>Family child care</i>	
Family child care agencies	2
Family child care homes (agency-based and individually licensed)	104

### Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces

<i>Full-time regulated centre-based spaces</i>	
Non-profit	1,424
For-profit	3,774
<b>Total</b>	5,198
<i>Part-time and school-age regulated centre-based spaces</i>	
Part-time non-profit	252
Part-time for-profit	188
<b>Total</b>	440
School-age non-profit	656
School-age for-profit	301
<b>Total</b>	957
Non-profit	2,332
For-profit	4,263
<b>Total</b>	6,595

### Parent fees

There is no set parent fee with the exception of child care centres choosing to participate in the Operating Grant Program which must set their rates at approved fee subsidy rates and may not surcharge for services (see section on the Operating Grant Program).

In 2012, a national survey of child care centres and staff found median monthly fees of:

<i>Age group</i>	<i>Median monthly fee</i>
Infant	not available
Toddler	\$773
Preschool	783

In 2014, a national survey of child care fees in Canada's largest cities included St. Johns

	<i>Median monthly pre-schooler fee</i>
St. Johns	\$868

Note: See Table 3 in this document for age breakdowns.

## STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

### REGULATED CENTRES

<b>Maximum centre size:</b>	60 spaces	
<b>Maximum room size:</b>	not specified	
<b>Maximum staff/child ratios and group sizes</b>		
Age	Staff: child ratio	Max. group size
0-24 months	1:3	6
25-36 months	1:5	10
37-69 months	1:8	16
57-84 months, attending school	1:12	24
85-155 months, attending school	1:15	30

#### Centre staff qualification requirements

One staff person with each group of children is required to have Level One certification (a one year certificate in ECE) (see description of certification levels below) for the age group in which the staff is assigned and a minimum of one year's experience in that classification.

All other staff who are included in the staff/child ratio must have Entry Level certification (a 30-60 hour Orientation course), with the exception of infant programs, where the minimum qualification is Level One infant care.

Centre operators must have Level Two certification in the age groups for which the centre is licensed and two or more years experience working with children in those age groups, or its equivalent from another jurisdiction.

ECE instructors and program consultants are required to have Level Four certification.

The educational or experience qualification requirements may be waived if a provincial Director is satisfied that persons who meet the qualifications cannot be reasonably obtained by the child care service in the area in which the service is operated, and if the licensee meets conditions set out in the Regulations. The staff person is required to be actively upgrading to the minimum level of the position.

#### Certification levels:

- *Entry Level:* Child Care Services certification requires completion of an orientation course of 30-60 hours, depending on the age group with which the staff will be working.

- *Level One:* certification requires a minimum of a one-year certificate in Early Childhood Education. Staff are certified to work with particular age groups.
- *Level Two:* certification requires a minimum of a two-year diploma in Early Childhood Education. Staff are certified to work with particular age groups.
- *Level Three:* certification requires Level Two certification plus an ECE-specific or an ECE-related post-diploma specialization.
- *Level Four:* certification requires an ECE-specific university degree or a university degree plus an ECE diploma.

Applicants from out-of-province are required to have their course work and practicum requirements compared to the Post-Secondary Program Standards for a determination of equivalency. If applicants are certified/registered in another province or territory they may apply under the Agreement on Internal Trade and not submit coursework/practicum information.

A minimum of 30 hours of professional development every three years is required to keep any certification level valid.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development contracts with the Association of Early Childhood Educators of Newfoundland and Labrador (AECENL) to certify staff and to deliver the orientation courses at no cost to the individual. AECENL also provides professional development opportunities through face-to-face workshops and conferences, online workshops, a resource library and webinars.

### REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

#### Model of organization

Newfoundland and Labrador uses two models: a) individually licensed providers and b) licensed non-profit agencies that enter into contractual agreements with approved providers under the regulations.

Individually licensed providers tend to be in the more rural areas of the province.

#### Maximum capacity

Care for up to six children including the provider's own children not attending school on a full-time basis. No more than three children may be under 36 months; of these, no more than two may be under 24 months. Under exceptional circumstances (and with a Director's

approval), the provider may add two school-age children if she has two children of her own who are younger than school-age. With director's approval, a seventh child may be added for a maximum of 1.5 hours per day, or for a maximum of 12 continuous hours once a week.

A provider may care for three children under 24 months if there are no other children being cared for at the same time.

### **Licensing, monitoring and enforcement**

In agency-based family child care, home visitors make both announced and unannounced visits at least once a month to monitor the home and provide support to the provider. Home visitors also conduct annual inspection visits at least once a year, at which time a written evaluation of the child care service and related requirements is completed. In addition, annual fire/life safety and health inspections are conducted by Government Services Centre inspectors. Home visitors are required to have at least Level II certification in family child care and two years experience in a family child care setting. Agencies are inspected annually by staff in the region.

Individually licensed homes are monitored and supported through monthly visits (where possible), and receive annual inspections from regional staff. In addition, annual fire/life safety and health inspections are conducted by Government Services Centre inspectors.

### **Family child care provider qualification requirements**

Providers in regulated family child care who work under the supervision of an agency or who are individually licensed are required to have Entry Level certification in family child care (one 30-60 hour course). A minimum of 30 hours of professional development every three years is required to keep the certification valid.

Providers must be at least 18 years old, have Criminal and Child Protection Records Checks and hold a valid first aid certificate.

## **FUNDING**

### **CHILD CARE SERVICES ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING**

All types of services are eligible for all types of funding except Capacity Initiative funding which is limited to rural child care programs.

## **TYPES OF FUNDING**

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### **Fee subsidies**

Any licensed full-time, centre-based or family child care, non-profit or for-profit child care service is eligible to enrol children receiving subsidies.

Subsidies are guaranteed to all eligible families. Families on income support who have previously been needs tested do not require further testing while other families are income tested. To be eligible, parents must be employed or in school, or the child is referred to child care for developmental reasons. Child development is considered in the eligibility criteria for subsidy whether or not the parent is in the paid labour force or training.

The maximum subsidy rates may not cover the full cost of child care. There is no minimum user fee but with the exception of child care centres choosing to participate in the Operating Grant Program, programs may surcharge subsidized parents above the maximum subsidy rates.

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### **One time funding**

#### *Start-up and Equipment Grants*

Available for regulated family child care homes. Any regulated family child care provider who provides care to infants and toddlers only and agrees to set fees at the subsidy rates may be eligible for an Infant Stimulus Grant of \$200/month/infant space.

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### **Recurring funding**

Newfoundland and Labrador has a number of kinds of recurring child care funding.

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#### *Early Learning and Child Care Supplement*

Provides wage funding to child care staff trained in early childhood education, program operators, and regulated family child care providers. The intent of the initiative is to attract a greater number of qualified individuals to work in regulated child care settings.

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#### *ELCC Capacity Initiative*

This initiative aims to increase and fund child care in rural, remote and underserved communities. Regional capacity consultants work with community groups to establish non-profit programs. Funding is available on an as-needed basis for start up and on-going operational developmental costs. (Note: Ongoing operational funding is provided through the Operating Grant Program)

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#### *Operating Grant Program*

This program was launched in December 2014 to assist in making child care affordable for more parents. The voluntary Operating Grant Program requires centres to meet specific accountability criteria, including setting child care fees at provincial daily subsidy rates. This program is open to all centres for-profit and non-profit.

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#### *Inclusion Supports Program*

Provides supports to centres for children with special needs.

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#### *Supports to Infant Centres in High Schools*

Provides core funding to three infant centres in high schools.

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#### **Other funding**

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##### **Bursaries**

The Entry Level ECE Trainee Supplement Bursary provides some funds to Entry Level child care practitioners who are taking courses to upgrade their certification level to Level I.

Bursaries are available immediately upon graduation from full-time recognised ECE programs in NL for graduates who agree to work in a child care centre or regulated family child care for a minimum of two years.

Bursaries for College of the North Atlantic on-campus field placements for ECEs and regulated family child care providers who are upgrading their qualifications through distance education.

Bursaries of up to \$500 per year for those upgrading their Early Childhood Education qualifications through online/distance programs while working in the regulated child care sector.

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#### PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE (2011/2012)

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*Note: All allocations below are from 2012. More recent data was not available.*

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<b>Fee subsidies</b>	\$13,541,230
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##### **One time funding**

Equipment grants	\$434,775
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##### **Recurring funding**

ELCC supplement	\$3,057,000
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Inclusion	1,414,200
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Capacity initiative	1,768,000
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Family Child Care Initiative	694,900
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Family child care agencies	314,400
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<b>Total recurring funding</b>	\$7,248,500
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<b>Total regulated child care</b>	\$21,224,505
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##### **Other funding**

ECE bursaries	\$224,000
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Certification and professional development	177,400
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Other grants	319,775
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# Prince Edward Island



## OVERVIEW

In 2010, PEI outlined a new approach to early childhood education and care in [Securing The Future For Our Children: Preschool Excellence Initiative](#) which built on [The Early Years Report Early Learning In PEI: An Investment in the Island's Future](#).

Regulated child care has been under the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development since 2007. Until 2010, kindergarten was delivered by child care centres under child care legislation but has now moved into the public education system, becoming a compulsory full-school day program for five year olds. The Early Child Development Division is responsible for Early Years Centres and other regulated child care programs while kindergarten is part of the Department's K-12 programs.

Child care centres are predominantly delivered by for-profit operators with some non-profits. These now include Early Years Centres, a new model. These are governed by additional provincial policies including provincially-set parent fees and formula-based unit funding. They are also required to have spaces for infants and include children with special needs, have parent advisory committees and determine staff wages and benefits according to a provincial salary scale. There is a new mandated early learning curriculum framework and revised certification and training requirements.

When the new policy was introduced, existing centres were given the option to apply for designation as an Early Years Centre (EYC), remain a regulated private/non-EYC centre or retire their license. The provincial government determines the number of Early Years Centres based on demonstrated community need.

## PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

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### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	1,500
1	1,500
2	1,400
3	1,600
4	1,500
5	1,700
6	1,500
7	1,200
8	1,600
9	1,600
10	1,700
11	1,300
12	1,600
Total	19,700

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### Number of children 0-12 years (aggregated) (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	4,400
3-5	4,800
6-12	10,500
Total	19,700

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### Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	900
1	1,100
2	1,100
3	1,200
4	900
5	1,300
6	1,100
7	900
8	1,000
9	1,200
10	1,200
11	900
12	1,100
Total	14,100

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**Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (aggregated) (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age	Number of children
0-2	3,100
3-5	3,400
6-12	7,400
Total	14,100

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**Number of children 0-14 years identifying with an Aboriginal group (2011)**

Age	First Nations	Metis	Inuit	Multiple	Other	Total
0-4	120	15	0	0	0	175
5-9	170	0	0	0	0	200
10-14	130	70	0	0	0	245
Total	415	100	20	0	0	625

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**Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age of youngest child	Number of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-2	3,300	84.6
3-5	2,200	84.6
6-15	6,400	87.6

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**FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE****Maternity leave**

Seventeen weeks.

**Parental leave**

Thirty-five weeks. The total parental leave for both parents cannot exceed 35 weeks.

**Adoption leave**

Fifty-two weeks. The combined total leave for both parents cannot exceed 52 weeks.

*Note: Paid maternity and parental leave provisions are divided between federal and provincial/territorial governments. All leave provisions are set under employment standards legislation by provinces/territories. The federal government benefit for these leaves pays for up to 15 weeks of maternity leave and 35 weeks of parental leave/adoptive leave (either parent) for new parents eligible under Employment Insurance rules. In all jurisdictions except Quebec (which has its own approach), the benefit is paid at a rate of 55% of earned income to a maximum of \$524/week (2015).*

## KINDERGARTEN

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development  
250 Water St., Holman Centre  
Summerside, PE, C1N 1B6  
Phone: (902) 438-4883  
Website: <http://www.gov.pe.ca/eecd/>

The Department is responsible for teacher/staff certification, supports for children with special needs in preschool, policy development, funding, curriculum development, program support and in-service training.

### LEGISLATION

Prince Edward Island. Legislative Assembly. *The School Act*, R.S.P.E.I. 1988, c. S-2.1

### AGE ELIGIBILITY

Five years old by December 31.

### COMPULSORY

Kindergarten is a compulsory grade level for all eligible children as a full school-day program.

### HOURS

Five hours of instructional time per day.

### CLASS SIZE

Class sizes are based on 15 children. When there are 18 or more children in a class, an additional teacher is required.

### TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

All kindergarten teachers are now required to have a Bachelor of Education degree with specialization in Early Years. This requirement was phased in over a period of time during which a special Bachelor of Education-Kindergarten program was offered at the University of PEI.

## CURRICULUM

[Kindergarten Integrated Curriculum Document](#)

### SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN

K-12 per pupil spending \$11,317

## REGULATED CHILD CARE

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development  
Early Childhood Development Division  
250 Water St., Holman Centre  
Summerside, PE, C1N 1B6  
Telephone: (902) 438-4883  
Website: [www.gov.pe.ca/eecd/earlychildhood](http://www.gov.pe.ca/eecd/earlychildhood)

### LEGISLATION

Prince Edward Island. Legislative Assembly. *The Child Care Facilities Act*. 1988.  
Prince Edward Island. Legislative Assembly. *Child Care Facilities Regulations*. 1988.  
Prince Edward Island. Legislative Assembly. *The Social Assistance Act*. 2003 (Dept of Community Services and Seniors)

### CHILD CARE SERVICES

#### UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

##### Unregulated family child care

Five children including the caregiver's own preschool-age children are permitted. If all children are under two years, three are allowed, or five preschoolers if not more than two of them are younger than two years. Six are allowed in a mixed-age group up to 10 years with no more than two younger than two years.

## REGULATED CHILD CARE

### Early childhood centres

Group child care for less than 24 hours/day for children from birth to seven years including part-day nursery schools for children aged 2–5 years. These may be Early Years Centres or private non-EYC regulated centres.

### School-age child care centres

Group child care outside school hours for school-age children (usually 5 – 12 years).

### Family child care

Full-day child care in a private home for mixed-age groups up to a maximum of seven children, including the provider's own preschool-aged children.

## CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

[PEI Early Learning Framework: Relationships, Environments, Experiences](#)

## CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There are no segregated child care programs for children with special needs. Centres may apply for a special needs grant on behalf of a child which may cover staff to support the child plus mandatory employment-related costs. The role of these grants is to lower ratios to allow for children's successful inclusion into early childhood settings. The funding is not capped and there is no waiting list for service.

Early Years Centres are not permitted to turn away a child with special needs for service.

## ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

Prince Edward Island currently has one licensed child care program on-reserve with Early Years Centre designation; it is funded by the province. There are no First Nations and Inuit Child Care Initiative (FNICCI) programs in Prince Edward Island. There is one unlicensed centre on-reserve. As well, the Mi'kmaq Family Resource Centre operates an Aboriginal Head Start program in Charlottetown. It serves 3–6 year olds and is regulated.

## SPACE STATISTICS (2014)

### Number of regulated child care spaces

<i>Centre-based</i>			
Age group	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Infants (0-24 months)	209	55	264
Preschool (2-4 years)	2,489	231	2,720
School-age (5-12 years)	-	1,264	1,264
<i>Total centre-based spaces</i>	2,698	1,550	4,248
<i>Total family child care spaces</i>			14
<b>Total number of regulated spaces</b>			4,262

*Note: Kindergarten was previously part of child care centres but is now part of the public education system. Thus, numbers of spaces that include that age group in editions of ECEC in Canada before 2010 are not directly comparable.*

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<b>Children with special needs in regulated child care</b>	172
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<b>Children receiving fee subsidies</b>	1,624
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### Number of child care programs

<i>Centre-based</i>	
Full-day (Early Years Centres – EYCs)	22
Full-day (Other centres)	45
Part-day nursery schools	9
Stand-alone school-age	-
<b>Total centre-based programs</b>	115

<i>School-based child care centres</i>	
<i>(These are included in centre-based programs)</i>	
For preschool-age children	3
For school-age children	10
<i>Family child care</i>	
Individual family child care providers	2

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<b>Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces</b>	
Non-profit	1,516
For-profit	2,734

### Parent fees

*Early Years Centres* (provincially-set daily parent fees)

0 – 2 years	\$34/day
2 – 3 years	28/day
3 years – school entry	27/day

*Other regulated centres* (average weekly)

Infants - full day	\$165/wk
Two year olds	135/wk
3 – 13 years	130/wk

*Note: These averages are calculated based on data collected from non-EYC programs.*

In 2012, a national survey of child care centres and staff found median monthly fees of:

Age group	Median monthly fee
Infant	\$696
Toddler	566
Preschool	544

## STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

### REGULATED CENTRES

**Maximum centre size:** 50 spaces

**Maximum room size:** not specified

#### Staff/child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes
0 – 2 years	1:3	6
2 – 3 years	1:5	Not specified
3 – 5 years	1:10	Not specified
5 – 6 years	1:12	Not specified
7+ years	1:15	Not specified

#### Centre staff qualification requirements

*Type I centres (Full and part-day child care centres):* Centre supervisors and one full-time staff member in each program must have at least a one year Early Childhood Development diploma or university Child Study degree.

Thirty hours of in-service training every three years is required for all staff.

*Type II centres (Family child care homes and school-age centres):* The supervisor and one staff person of a Type II facility must have successfully completed one unit of continuing education (defined as one semester university/college course), and must provide two personal references from members of the community.

*Early Years Designation:* Must meet the requirements of a Type I centre and have all remaining program staff certified at a minimum of entry level.

#### Certification requirements

Once certified, thirty hours of ongoing training every three years is required to maintain certification.

### REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

#### Model of organization

Providers are individually licensed.

#### Maximum capacity

Up to seven children including the provider's own children under school-age with a maximum of three children under two years.

#### Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

Annual inspections are made by staff of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, who observe the administration and programming in the home, by an inspector for the Fire Marshall's office and by an environmental health officer.

#### Family child care provider qualification requirements

Providers must be at least 18 years of age, have completed a 30 hour training program, have two letters of reference and a current first aid certificate.

## FUNDING

### CHILD CARE SERVICES ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

Only designated Early Years Centres receive base funding. Otherwise, all licensed child care centres are eligible for all other funding programs including fee subsidies.

Unit funding for Early Years Centres includes base (operating) funding to the centre together with parent fees or a fee subsidy if the family is eligible. In Early Years Centres, parent fees are set by the province based on the age of the child.



## TYPES OF FUNDING

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### Fee subsidies

Subsidies are managed by the Department of Community Services and Seniors. Any Early Years Centre, regulated non-profit or for-profit child care program or regulated family child care home is eligible to enroll children receiving subsidies.

Eligibility for families to receive subsidized child care is determined by an income test and by the following social criteria: parent(s) working or studying, parental medical emergency, child in need of protection, children with special needs, children of immigrant families who are registered for English/French second language programs and school readiness.

In Early Years Centres, parent fees are set by the province based on the age of the child. In addition, families in Early Years Centres may be subsidized to cover the full parent fee if they are eligible. In other centres and family child care homes, the subsidy rate may not fully cover the parent fee. These programs may charge subsidized families a surcharge above the maximum subsidy rate.

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<b>One time funding</b>	Not available
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### Recurring funding

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#### *The Quality Enhancement Grant*

Provides licensed early learning and child care centres with financial support in order to enhance the quality of their programs. Centres must have been open and operational for six months by March 31, 2013 to be eligible to apply for funding.

#### *Special Needs Grant*

Provides licensed early childhood centres with financial support in order to include children with diagnosed special needs up to the age of 12 years in their program.

#### *Early Years Centre funding*

Early Years Centres are funded quarterly. EYCs submit invoices to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development detailing enrolment and staffing. A funding formula is applied to determine the amount of funding per EYC.

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## PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE

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<b>Fee subsidies</b>	\$3,170,000
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<b>One time funding</b>	Not available
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### Recurring funding

Operating grants	\$295,000
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Special needs funding	1,200,000
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Early Years Centres	7,455,000
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<b>Total regulated child care spending</b>	\$12,120,000
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### Other funding

Home visiting program	\$1,221,100
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Early Childhood Development Association	160,000
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# Nova Scotia



## OVERVIEW

Responsibility for regulated child care was transferred to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (Early Years Branch) in 2013. Child care is delivered in non-profit and for-profit child care facilities. There is no publicly operated child care.

Nova Scotia has had full school-day kindergarten (Grade Primary) for all five year olds for a number of years. Full-day Grade Primary, like early elementary, is a shorter day than later elementary, covering a minimum of four hours a day.

In 2013 -14, four Early Years Centres opened in Nova Scotia and four more were planned for 2015. The centres are located in or near schools. At a minimum, each must offer three core components: family supports, regulated child care and an early learning program for four year olds in the year prior to entering school. Early Years Centres are partnerships with community organizations.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development is developing an Early Years Framework. In 2015, a review of licensed child care in Nova Scotia was conducted and amendments to the Day Care Regulations were made regarding criminal record and child abuse registry checks, including expanding the criminal record check to include a Vulnerable Sector Check and to clarify existing provisions in a number of areas (e.g., programming, building and space requirements, types of incident and proper response procedures, training requirements for staff).

## PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

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### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	8,300
1	8,000
2	7,600
3	8,500
4	9,000
5	8,900
6	9,100
7	8,600
8	8,900
9	9,100
10	8,500
11	8,200
12	8,600
Total	111,100

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### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	23,900
3-5	26,400
6-12	61,000
Total	111,100

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### Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	5,400
1	5,300
2	4,600
3	5,600
4	5,000
5	6,200
6	6,500
7	5,800
8	5,700
9	6,200
10	5,900
11	5,700
12	6,400
Total	74,600

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**Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age	Number of children
0-2	15,300
3-5	16,800
6-12	42,200
Total	74,600

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**Children 0-14 years identifying with an Aboriginal group (2011)**

Age	First Nations	Metis	Inuit	Multiple	Other	Total
0-4	1,995	585	55	0	85	2,730
5-9	1,905	465	30	25	90	2,520
10-14	2,130	645	95	10	35	2,915
Total	6,025	1,695	185	50	210	8,165

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**Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age of youngest child	Number of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-2	15,900	75.4
3-5	12,600	78.3
6-15	38,700	85.6

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**FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE****Maternity leave**

Seventeen weeks.

**Parental leave**

Both parents are entitled to 52 weeks which must be taken within 12 months of the child's birth. Thirty-five weeks for birth mothers who have taken pregnancy/ maternity leave.

**Adoption leave**

Fifty-two weeks.

*Note: Paid maternity and parental leave provisions are divided between federal and provincial/territorial governments. All leave provisions are set under employment standards legislation by provinces/territories. The federal government benefit for these leaves pays for up to 15 weeks of maternity leave and 35 weeks of parental leave/ adoptive leave (either parent) for new parents eligible under Employment Insurance rules. In all jurisdictions except Quebec (which has its own approach), the benefit is paid at a rate of 55% of earned income to a maximum of \$524/week (2015).*

## **KINDERGARTEN (GRADE PRIMARY)**

### **PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN**

Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development  
Brunswick Place  
2021 Brunswick Street  
P.O. Box 578  
Halifax, NS, B3J 2S9  
Telephone: (902) 424-5168  
Website: <https://www.ednet.ns.ca>

### **LEGISLATION**

Nova Scotia. Legislative Assembly. *Education Act and Regulation*. 1995-96, c. 1, s. 1. (Amended 1998; 2000; 2002; 2003; 2004; 2005; 2006; 2007; 2008; 2009; 2010).

Nova Scotia. Legislative Assembly. *Pre-primary Education Act* 2005, c. 44, s. 1. Proclaimed March 24, 2006.

### **AGE ELIGIBILITY**

Five years old on or before December 31.

### **COMPULSORY**

Grade Primary (kindergarten) is delivered in public and private schools and is compulsory. However, parents of children turning five on or before Dec. 31 can delay their child's participation.

### **HOURS**

A minimum of four hours/day is required for Grade Primary to Grade 2; this is considered to be full time.

### **CLASS SIZE**

25 students in Grade Primary to Grade 4 and 20 students in combined Grade Primary/Grade 1 classrooms.

### **TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS**

A valid teaching certificate is required. An Initial Teacher's Certificate requires a minimum of five years of undergraduate education, three years of approved undergraduate content studies, two years of an approved program of professional studies including a practicum, and receipt of an approved Bachelor's degree from a recognized university.

Early childhood education training is not required for Grade Primary teachers.

### **CURRICULUM**

[Learning Outcomes Framework Grades Primary](#)

### **SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN**

K-12 per pupil spending	\$12,031
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### **UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF PROVINCIAL SCHOOL BOARDS**

#### **EARLY LEARNING PROGRAMS**

Early Learning Programs are a component of the Early Years Centers and are offered to children four years of age prior to school entry (see OVERVIEW). Educators working in Early Learning Programs are required to hold a degree in early childhood education, a two year diploma in early Childhood education, or the equivalent of either. These programs are not licensed and fall under the authority of provincial school boards.

#### **EARLY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

Early Learning Opportunities (ELO) Programs are offered in 25 schools by seven school boards. ELO programs are available to children who turn four on or before December 31st and are voluntary and free of charge. The majority of programs are full day and five days a week.

## REGULATED CHILD CARE

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development  
Early Years Branch  
Brunswick Place, 2021 Brunswick Street  
P.O. Box 578  
Halifax, NS, B3J 2S9  
Phone: (902) 424-5168  
Website: <http://www.ednet.ns.ca/earlyyears/>

### LEGISLATION

Day Care Regulations made under Section 15 of the *Day Care Act* R.S.N.S. 1989, c. 120  
O.I.C. 2010-456 (December 20, 2010, effective April 1, 2011), N.S. Reg. 193/2010 as amended to O.I.C. 2014-531 (Dec. 22, 2014, effective Feb. 1, 2015), N.S. Reg. 226/2014 and including O.I.C. 2014-531 (December 22, 2014), N.S. Reg. 227/2014

### CHILD CARE SERVICES

#### UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

##### Unregulated family child care

Care for six or fewer children of any age, including the children of the person providing the care, or care for a maximum of eight school-age children, including the children of the person providing the care.

##### Family resource programs

Family Resource Programs provide community-based programs and services intended to support the healthy development and well-being of children and youth by strengthening and empowering families and communities. Programs and services delivered to children and their families focus on parent education and learning, family support, youth development and early learning and literacy. There are 25 programs in the province.

##### Before- and after-school programs

School board-operated before- and after-school programs are not required to be licensed. These programs are offered for children in grades Primary through 6 and operate with a 1:15 ratio. It is required that program staff have a minimum of one year child care experience for support staff, and three years minimum for head instructors.

#### REGULATED CHILD CARE

##### Child care centres

Care in a group setting for less than 24 hours/day for seven or more children from 0 –12 years. This includes full-day and part-day child care centres and programs for school-age children.

##### Family child care

Child care for up to six children of mixed ages including the provider's own children, or eight school-age children including the provider's own school-age children, in a care provider's private home that is approved, managed and monitored by a licensed family home day care agency.

### CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

Curriculum framework is in development.

### CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Supported Child Care Grant (SCCG) assists regulated child care facilities to support delivery of inclusive early childhood environments. The intention of the SCCG is to enhance the overall inclusivity of the child care facility, rather than supports to individual children. Funding can be used for specialised training and professional development for early childhood educators, additional staff to enhance ratios for the delivery of a facility's inclusive program, and to purchase educational and resource materials directly related to inclusive programs. Families do not pay for the additional supports provided.

## ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

The mandate of the Nova Scotia Tripartite Social Working committee is for Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq, the Province of Nova Scotia and the Government of Canada to work in partnership to discuss issues, develop solutions and suggest actions with respect to social development for Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq. Currently, one of the goals of this committee is to clarify policy and jurisdictional issues related to on-reserve child care.

First Nations child care centres are not provincially licensed or funded but typically follow the Mi'kmaq Child Care Guidelines. There are currently 12 First Nations child care centres with a total of 249 spaces.

Each Aboriginal community in Nova Scotia offers a federally funded Aboriginal Head Start program. There are 13 programs in total.

## SPACE STATISTICS (2014)

<b>Number of regulated child care spaces</b>			
<i>Centre-based</i>			
Age group	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Infants (0-17 months)	779	-	779
Toddler (18-35 months)	3,700	-	3,700
Preschool (36 months – 5 years)	6,403	1,980	8,383
School-age (6-12 years)	-	3,693	3,693
<b>Total centre-based spaces</b>	<b>10,882</b>	<b>5,673</b>	<b>16,555</b>
<b>Total family child care spaces</b>			<b>1,344</b>
<b>Total number of regulated spaces</b>			<b>17,899</b>
<b>Children with special needs in regulated child care</b>			
Number of centres receiving the Supported Child Care Grant (SCCG)			230
<i>Note: Information on individual children is not collected. The intention of the SCCG is to enhance the overall inclusivity of the child care facility rather than supports to individual children.</i>			
<b>Children receiving fee subsidies</b>			<b>4,895</b>
<b>Number of child care programs</b>			
<i>Centre-based</i>			
Full-day			276
Part-day nursery schools/preschools			114

### *School-based child care centres (2012)*

For preschool-age children	35
For school-age children	18
With both preschool and school-age children (included in centre-based)	9

### *Family child care*

Family child care agencies	14
Family child care homes	224

### **Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces**

Non-profit	7,439
For-profit	9,116

### **Parent fees**

Nova Scotia does not legislate parent fees.

Based on a national survey, the 2012 median monthly fees were:

<i>Age group</i>	<i>Median monthly fee</i>
Infant	\$825/month
Toddler	694/month
Preschool	685/month

In 2014, a national survey of child care fees in Canada's large cities included Halifax:

<i>Median monthly preschooler fee</i>	
Halifax	\$781

*Note: See Table 3 in this document for age breakdowns.*

## STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

### REGULATED CENTRES

**Maximum facility size:** not specified

**Maximum room size:** not specified

### **Maximum staff/child ratios and group sizes:**

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes
0 – 17 months	1:4	10
18 – 35 months	1:6	18
36 months – 5 years (full-day)	1:8	24
30 months – 5 years (part-day)	1:12	24
5 – 12 years (attending school)	1:15	30



### **Centre staff qualification requirements**

A facility Director or Acting Director of a child care program licensed for all ages must hold a Level 2 or 3 Classification. The Director or Acting Director licensed for school-age children must hold a Level 2 or 3 classification, or School-Age Approval.

At least 2/3 of the staff working directly with children in a licensed full-day or part-day program must hold a Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3 classification granted by the Minister as per section 37 of the *Day Care Act* and Regulations.

Facility staff working directly with children who do not hold a Level 1, 2 or 3 classification must have completed the 'Orientation for Staff Working in Licensed Child Care Facilities' or post-secondary courses comparable to the orientation training.

In a licensed child care program for school-age children at least 2/3 of staff must have the above requirements or school-age training approval.

## REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

### **Model of organization**

Agency model

### **Maximum capacity**

Individuals who provide approved family home day care may care for a maximum of six children up to the age of 12, including their own children, and must not have any other children in their care, subject to the following restrictions: If a care provider is caring for four to six children, no more than three children may be under three years of age and of those three children no more than two children may be infants.

Persons who provide approved family home day care for school-age children may care only for a maximum of eight school-age children at a time including their own children and must not have any other children in their care.

Persons who provide approved family home day care for infants may care for a maximum of three infants at a time, including their own infant(s), and must not have any other children in their care.

### **Licensing, monitoring and enforcement**

Family home day care agencies are licensed under the authority of the *Day Care Act* and Regulations to approve, manage and monitor care providers in their homes.

A family home day care agency must hire a family home day care consultant to provide services and support to family home day care providers. The family home day care consultant must have a two year diploma in early childhood education from a recognised training program approved by the director; at least two years' experience working in an early learning and child care program; and current first aid and infant cardio-pulmonary resuscitation training from a recognised program approved by the director.

### **Family child care provider qualification requirements**

The care provider is required to have Family Home Day Care Training - Level 1 of the Canadian Child Care Federation (CCCCF) Family Home Day Care Training. Providers must be at least 18 years old, be screened through the Child Abuse Register, complete vulnerable sector check by the RCMP or local police, and have completed a first aid course including infant CPR.

Any person who is 13 years old or older who lives in a family day care home and has contact with children or the records of children must complete a Child Abuse Register Check. Any person who is 18 years old or older who lives in a family day care home and who has, or will have, contact with children or the records of children must complete a vulnerable sector check.

## FUNDING

### CHILD CARE SERVICES ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

Funding is available to all licensed centres, both full-day and part-day and regulated family child care agencies. Both non-profit and for-profit facilities can apply for grants and/or funding.

### TYPES OF FUNDING

#### **Fee subsidies**

Nova Scotia's Child Care Subsidy Program is intended to assist eligible families with the cost of licensed child care facilities or regulated family day care. Subsidies are provided directly to the child care facility or family home day care agency on behalf of the parent. The subsidy is portable and moves with the child.

Subsidies are available to all families that meet the required income, financial and social criteria. Subsidy per diem rates (see table below) do not cover full fees; a family eligible for subsidy is required to pay any centre fees that are above the approved government subsidy per diem. Subsidy per diems were revised in 2009.

<i>Age group</i>	<i>Per diem rate</i>
Infants	\$22.00
Toddlers	20.00
Preschool	19.00
School-age	17.70

### One time funding

#### *Family Home Day Care Start Up Grant (one-time)*

If a new agency is approved for funding, they will receive a Family Home Day Care Start up Grant to offset expenses directly related to the startup costs for the agency.

The Start-Up Grant will provide a one-time fixed amount to be used by the agency to pay for advertising, equipment, and legal fees incurred to set up the agency.

### Recurring funding

#### *Early Childhood Enhancement Grants (ECEG)*

The ECEG is intended to enhance the salary and benefits of early childhood staff who work directly with children in licensed child care centre facilities. All licensed child care facilities (full-time/part-time, for-profit/non-profit) are eligible to apply for the ECEG.

As per the ECEG Terms and Conditions, the grant is to be used as follows:

- <sup>a</sup> 80% Wages and benefits to early childhood staff working directly with children
- 15% Operational costs
- 5% Professional growth for educators

#### *Family Home Daycare Operating Grant*

The Family Home Day Care Operating Grant is an annual grant intended to support the agency in meeting the costs of salary and benefits to agency staff, transportation, education, program material, and fixed costs. Fixed costs include rent and utilities, insurance, phone, equipment, advertising and administration costs.

#### *Supported Child Care Grant (SCCG)*

The SCCG is not attached to a specific child but provides funding to licensed, full, part-day and school-age child care facilities to create or sustain inclusive child care programs. Funding provided through the Supported Child Care Grant can be used for wages for additional staff, approved professional development and training directly related to the delivery of an inclusive program, and approved educational and resource materials directly related to the delivery of an inclusive program.

### PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE

<b>Fee subsidies</b>	\$17,684,353
<b>One time funding</b>	not available
<b>Recurring funding</b>	
Early Childhood Enhancement Grant (ECEG)	\$18,808,604
Child Development Centre Grant	250,429
Family home day care	1,379,149
Supported Child Care	5,293,897
<b>Total regulated child care funding</b>	<b>\$43,416,432</b>

### Other funding

Early Childhood Education Training Initiative (ECEAP)	\$879,972
Early Childhood Education Assistance Program (ECEAP)	251,274
Continuing Education	242,895
Early Years Centres	500,000
Nova Scotia Child Care Association	39,270

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# New Brunswick



## OVERVIEW

Responsibility for kindergarten, regulated child care and other early childhood development programs was moved into New Brunswick's new Department of Education and Early Childhood Development as of April 1, 2011.

New Brunswick is an officially bilingual province with parallel English and French public education sectors; French and English kindergartens are delivered as part of those two sectors.

Kindergarten is a compulsory full school-day program for five year olds. Full school-day is defined as four to 4.5 hours a day.

Regulated child care centres are predominantly for-profit, with about one third non-profit centres, and no publicly-delivered child care. Regulated family child care is individually licensed. Its spaces are termed "approved spaces" while regulated family child care homes are termed "community child care homes". Parental leave is termed "child care leave".

## PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

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### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	6,500
1	6,400
2	7,100
3	7,700
4	6,200
5	7,100
6	7,200
7	7,100
8	7,400
9	7,400
10	6,200
11	6,900
12	8,100
Total	91,200

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### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	20,000
3-5	21,000
6-12	50,300
Total	91,200

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### Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	4,000
1	3,900
2	4,000
3	5,100
4	4,200
5	4,400
6	4,800
7	4,300
8	4,800
9	4,800
10	4,200
11	4,900
12	5,900
Total	59,300

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**Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age	Number of children
0-2	11,900
3-5	13,700
6-12	33,700
Total	59,300

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**Children 0-14 years identifying with an Aboriginal group (2011)**

Age	First Nations	Metis	Inuit	Multiple	Other	Total
0-4	1,470	230	65	0	30	1,815
5-9	1,400	280	55	30	30	1,800
10-14	1,650	330	70	0	40	2,100
Total	4,520	840	190	50	105	5,710

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**Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age of youngest child	Number of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-2	12,400	70.5
3-5	10,400	80.6
6-15	31,100	85.5

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**FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE****Maternity leave**

Seventeen weeks.

**Parental leave (Child Care Leave)**

37 weeks may be shared between the parents. The combined total of maternity leave and Child Care Leave taken by one or both parents cannot exceed 52 weeks.

**Family-related leave**

Three days per year.

*Note: Paid maternity and parental leave provisions are divided between federal and provincial/territorial governments. All leave provisions are set under employment standards legislation by provinces/territories. The federal government benefit for these leaves pays for up to 15 weeks of maternity leave and 35 weeks of parental leave/adoptive leave (either parent) for new parents eligible under Employment Insurance rules. In all jurisdictions except Quebec (which has its own approach), the benefit is paid at a rate of 55% of earned income to a maximum of \$524/week (2015).*

## KINDERGARTEN

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Department of Education and Early Childhood  
Development  
Educational Services Division  
Place 2000, 250 King Street  
Fredericton, NB, E3B 5H1  
Telephone: (506) 444-4672  
Website: <http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/education.html>

Ministère de l'Éducation et Développement  
de la petite enfance  
Division des Services Éducatifs francophones  
Place 2000, 250 rue King  
Fredericton, NB, E3B 5H1  
Website: <http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/fr/ministres/education.html>

### LEGISLATION

New Brunswick. Legislative Assembly. *Education Act*, 1997. c.E-1.12

Sections of the Education Act specific to kindergarten are: Section 8 (school privileges), Section 15 (compulsory attendance), and Section 16 (exceptions).

### AGE ELIGIBILITY

Five years of age by December 31.

### COMPULSORY

Kindergarten is delivered in public schools and is compulsory.

### HOURS

The number of instructional hours must be a minimum of four hours and a maximum of 4.5 hours per day. School districts report that kindergarten programs operate at the maximum hours of instruction. There are approximately 832 instructional hours per year (based on 185 days of instruction).

### CLASS SIZE

Provincial class size limits are specified in the agreement between Board of Management and the New Brunswick Teachers' Federation. The 2008–2012 agreement stipulates a maximum kindergarten class size of 22 pupils. A kindergarten class combined with any other grade shall not exceed 17 pupils.

### TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Two undergraduate degrees and a New Brunswick Teacher's Certificate are required. There are no specific requirements for kindergarten teachers beyond those for elementary teachers. According to provincial officials, school districts are likely to give preference when hiring to a teacher who has taken some early childhood courses.

### CURRICULUM

[K-12 Anglophone Sector Kindergarten Curriculum](#)  
[K-12 Francophone Sector Kindergarten Curriculum](#)

### SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN

K-12 per pupil spending	\$13,181
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## REGULATED CHILD CARE

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

Early Childhood Development Division  
Place 2000, P.O. Box 6000, 250 King Street  
Fredericton, NB, E3B 1H1

Telephone: (506) 453-2950

Websites: <http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/education/elcc.html>

<http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/fr/ministeres/education/elcc.html>

### LEGISLATION

New Brunswick. Legislative Assembly. *Early Childhood Services Act*. Not yet proclaimed.

New Brunswick. Legislative Assembly. *Family Services Act*. 1980.

New Brunswick. Legislative Assembly. *Family Services Act* and Day Care Regulations, 83–85, as amended.

### CHILD CARE SERVICES

#### UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

##### Unregulated family child care

Care provided in a home for a maximum of five children (including the caregiver's own children less than 12 years) of mixed ages, 0-12 years. Maximum number if all are 2-5 years: four. Maximum if all are school-age: eight.

##### Alternative child care program

This provides funding to parents who are working or training and for whom no accessible regulated child care is available due to where they live or their hours of work. These parents may be eligible for the Alternative Child Care Program. The maximum daily subsidy for this is \$18.50 for infants, \$16.50 for children two years and older, and \$9.25 for after-school care.

#### REGULATED CHILD CARE

##### Day care centres

Part-time or full-time care for less than 24 hours/day for four or more infants, six or more preschoolers, 10 or more children aged 6-12 years, or seven or more children from birth to 12 years.

##### Nursery schools

Part-day programs for preschool-age children.

##### School-age child care centres

Centre-based care outside school hours for school-age children up to and including 12 years.

##### Community day care homes

Care in a private home for no more than six children of a combination of ages from birth to 12 years, including the caregiver's own children under 12 years.

### CURRICULUM FRAMEWORKS

[New Brunswick Early Learning and Child Care Curriculum Framework](#)

[Le Curriculum éducatif Services de gardes franco-phonie du Nouveau-Brunswick](#)

The Early Learning and Child Care Curriculum is a learning and development tool for parents and caregivers of all children aged 0 to 5. It promotes an experiential-based approach to learning and was developed by New Brunswick child care experts to assist parents and caregivers in helping children grow to their greatest potential. It recognizes the individual learning abilities and unique cultural and linguistic identities of all children. It encourages children to be active participants in their own learning and allows them to follow their interests. It works with their strengths and aims to develop dignity, a sense of self worth, and a zest for living and learning.

### CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Children with disabilities and additional needs may receive services in regulated child care under the following programs: Enhanced Support Worker Program (ESWP) and Developmental Child Care.

Eligibility for the ESWP is determined through an annual application process. Under the ESWP, child care programs are funded to pay salary costs of support worker (aid) hours for preschool-aged and school-aged children

with disabilities and additional needs. The intent of the ESWP is to lower the child:staff ratio when children with disabilities and additional needs are in attendance. The ESWP is intended to support the labour force activities of families with children with disabilities and additional needs. Therefore it is intended to support children with parent(s) who are working or studying. The ESWP offers funds to centres for the salary of a support worker for a maximum of 35 support worker hours per preschool child per week. School-aged children can receive funding for up to 20 hours per week while school is in session and 35 for one week in December, March Break and summer vacation.

Eligibility for the Developmental Child Care program is determined through a referral from a Family and Early Childhood Agency, formerly Early Intervention Programs. Developmental Child Care may be provided for up to 12 hours per week for preschool children only. Parents do not need to be in the labour force. Funding may be provided to support the cost of care at the part time subsidy rate under the Day Care Assistance Program as well as the salary of a support staff, and transportation, if required. Families of children enrolled in Developmental Child Care may also be clients of the Family and Early Childhood Agency, where the child's participation in a early learning and child care setting is part of an overall case plan to support the family.

## ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

New Brunswick approves child care centres on-reserve upon request from a First Nations community. Ongoing monitoring and renewal functions are undertaken by the province. On-reserve centres are not eligible for provincial funding and parents are not eligible for provincial fee subsidy.

There are two off-reserve Aboriginal child care programs that are approved by the Department and receive provincial government funding.

Ten centres on-reserve are currently approved by the Department. There are 268 approved spaces on reserve; 222 preschool and 46 school-age.

Some Head Start programs receive funding through an agreement between the First Nations of New Brunswick and Indigenous Affairs and Northern Development

Canada (New Brunswick Head Start) and from Health Canada (Aboriginal Head Start). These programs are not licensed by the provincial government.

## SPACE STATISTICS (2014)

### Number of regulated child care spaces

#### Centre-based

#### Age group

Infants (0-2 years)	1,754
Preschool (2-4 years)	10,211
School-age (5-12 years)	12,591

Total centre-based spaces 23,621

Total family child care spaces 906 (est).

**Total number of regulated child care spaces 24,527**

*Note: These figures are estimates made by provincial officials. New Brunswick approves child care centres for a total enrolment based on usable space and does not allocate spaces according to specific age groups. The number of spaces the facility operates per age category is collected through the Quality Improvement Funding Support Program's application process.*

### Children with special needs in regulated care

Enhanced Support Worker Program	2,251
Developmental Childcare Program	n/a

*Note: These figures are the number of children with disabilities and additional needs accessing programming as of March 31st, 2014. The breakdown of Enhanced Support Worker Program recipients includes 120 preschool and 131 school-aged kids. The Developmental Childcare Program is a preschool only program.*

### Children receiving fee subsidies

#### Age group

0-4 years	2,339
5-14 years	2,985
15 + years	8

**Total number of subsidies 5,332**

*Note: This figure is the number of children receiving subsidies as of March 31st, 2014. Note that New Brunswick reports only annual cumulative totals. Thus, this figure is not comparable to the numbers reported in the various editions of Early Childhood Education and Care in Canada.*



### Number of child care programs

#### Centre-based

Full-day	270
Part-day nursery schools/preschools	8
Stand-alone after-school programs	196
Combined nursery/school-age programs	131

*Note: The part-day nursery school/preschools and combined/nursery school figures are estimates as the data cannot identify part-time.*

**Total centre-based programs** 605

#### School-based child care centres

For preschool-age children	30
For school-age children only (included in centre-based)	68

#### Family child care

Individual family child care providers	151
Number of francophone child care centers	235

### Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces

Non-profit	8,666 (est.)
For-profit	14,955 (est.)

### Parent fees

There is no set parent fee.

Based on a national survey, the 2012 median monthly fees were:

Age group	Median monthly fee
Infant	\$740
Toddler	653
Preschool	620

The Child Day Care Services Annual Statistical Report 2013-2014 estimates the daily cost of full time care as follows:

Age group	Estimated daily fee
Infant	\$32.62
Toddler	27.63
Preschool	15.53

## STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

### REGULATED CENTRES

**Maximum centre size:** 60 spaces

**Maximum room size:** not specified

### Maximum staff/child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes
Under 2 years	1:3	9
2 – 3 years	1:5	10
3 – 4 years	1:7	14
4 – 5 years	1:10	20
5 – 6 years	1:12	24
6 – 12 years	1:15	30

### Centre staff qualification requirements

The centre director or his/her designate or one in four staff is required to have a one-year community college ECE certificate or equivalent. New applicants for child care centres must meet this training requirement prior to approval. Facilities not meeting the staff qualification requirement by 2006 were required to submit an action plan detailing how they would meet it. Many are still working to achieve this.

Staff must be at least 16 years old; 16-19 year olds are required to be supervised by a primary staff member who must be at least 19. All staff must have first-aid training and Prior Contact/Criminal Record Checks.

Individuals with out-of-province early childhood credentials that are accepted by other provinces in Atlantic Canada, or with a certificate level or higher from a community college that is a member of the Association of Community Colleges of Canada, are recognized as having equivalent qualifications.

New Brunswick also accepts as a training credential in child care a Bachelor of Education (Primary or Elementary) from New Brunswick universities.

There are no qualification requirements for staff working in stand-alone school-age programs.

## REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

### Model of organization

Individually licensed

### Maximum capacity

Infants: Three

2–5 years old: Five

6 years and over: Nine

Combination of ages: Six

The capacity maximums include the provider's own children who are under 12 years of age.

### Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

21 regional Early Childhood Services Coordinators located in the province's seven school districts (four Anglophone and three francophone) are responsible for monitoring compliance with the regulations.

The *Family Services Act* provides the Minister with the authority to investigate, recommend changes, suspend the operation or terminate the approval of a child care facility.

### Family child care provider qualification requirements

No early childhood education training or experience is required. Providers must be at least 19 years old and have first aid training. Training requirements implemented in April 1, 2003 do not apply to operators of community day care homes.

Providers are required to have a Prior Record Check and Criminal Record Check as set out in the Day Care Regulation 83-85.

## FUNDING

### Child care services eligible for funding

All services are eligible for all funding streams.

### TYPES OF FUNDING

#### Fee subsidies

Family eligibility is determined through a needs and income test, which is administered by the Department of Social Development. Parents must be working, attending school or undergoing medical treatment.

Child care subsidies are also available to support social assistance clients who are recently unemployed or who have recently completed training and are actively seeking employment. In addition, a social worker may refer a child to part-time care for social reasons.

#### One time funding

Capital funding and start-up funding provided through the Early Learning and Child Care Trust Fund:

*For new infant child care spaces:*

- Day care centres and community day care homes (minimum of three spaces must be created)

*For new spaces in rural New Brunswick local service districts and villages:*

- Day care centres (minimum of five spaces must be created) \$5,000/space
- Community day care homes (minimum of three spaces must be created)

*For new extended hours spaces for shift workers:*

- Day care centres (minimum of eight spaces must be created)
- Community day care homes (minimum of five spaces must be created)

*Training assistance*

- For individuals currently employed in approved child care facilities who have completed courses as part of the one year ECE Certificate from a recognised training institute on or after January 2007, or who completed the one year ECE Certificate on or after January 2007 and are currently employed in an approved child care facility in New Brunswick.

#### Recurring funding

*Quality Improvement Funding Support Program (QIFS)*

QIFS makes funding available to increase the wages of child care workers. All facilities with a valid facility identification number that apply for and are approved before the annual deadline receive funding. There are no waiting lists for eligible applicants. Funding is disbursed quarterly following receipt of the quarterly hours report indicating number of hours worked each quarter by each eligible employee.

*Special needs funding*

Funding is provided under the Enhanced Support Worker Program for families in the labour force whose children have relatively high support needs. Funding is provided under the Developmental Child Care Program for families referred through the Family and Early Childhood Agencies, where the child's participation in an early learning and child care facility is part of the case plan.

PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED  
CHILD CARE

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<b>Fee subsidies</b>	<b>\$15,691,200</b>
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**One time funding**

See Early Learning and Child Care Trust Fund below

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**Recurring Funding**

Quality Improvement Funding (QIF)	
support	\$21,530,000
Special needs funding	1,619,479

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<b>Total regulated child care</b>	<b>\$38,840,679</b>
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**Other funding**

*Early Learning and Child Care Trust Fund*

Training assistance for child care staff	\$1,699,469
Trust Fund - New child care spaces	5,203,000
Minority language funding	321,200
Early Childhood Care and Education NB (wage reimbursement program)	1,230,000
Professional development	2,567,576
Braiding Our Resources	25,070
Curriculum materials grant	407,094

<b>Total other funding</b>	<b>\$11,453,409</b>
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*Note: These figures represent disbursements under this fund cumulatively to March 2014.*

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## OVERVIEW

Provision of early childhood education and child care in Quebec is under two ministries, the Ministère de l'Éducation, de l'Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche (MEESR) and the Ministère de la Famille (MFA).

Quebec provides full-day kindergarten (maternelle) for all five year olds and some full- and part- day kindergarten (pré-maternelle) for four year olds under MEESR.

MFA is responsible for regulated child care for children aged 0-4. Regulated child care includes child care centres (called “facilities”) as components of centres de la petite enfance (CPEs). CPEs operate as small non-profit networks of several centres and often include regulated home child care services as well. Regulated family child care providers are supervised by Home Child Care Coordinating Offices (Bureaux coordonnateurs de la garde en milieu familial) (many of which are part of CPEs). There are, as well, for-profit centres (garderies). There is no publicly-delivered child care for children aged 0-4.

At one time, Quebec did not regulate part-day child care programs (jardins d'enfants) but non-grandparented nursery schools must now have a license (permis). CPEs and garderies may accommodate the parents if they request part-day or part time services.

Child care centres, regulated home child care and some garderies are primarily publicly funded. Spaces in these programs are termed *reduced contribution spaces* for which parents paid a flat \$7.30/day fee in 2014. This flat fee was replaced by a geared-to-income fee in April 2015; the geared-to-income portion of the fee will be paid through a parental tax contribution. Beginning in spring 2016, in addition to the core fee of \$7.30/day, parents will pay an additional geared-to-income amount at the time of tax filing. This will be indexed annually.

There are two types of garderies: funded (reduced contribution) centres and unfunded centres for which parents receive a rebate through a tax credit that reimburses up to 90% of their child care cost depending on their income.

School-age child care is operated by schools under MEESR. School boards are required to provide school-age care when there is sufficient demand. In 2014 it was available at the flat \$7.30/day fee, which applied when school is in session. In 2015 the fee moved to \$8.00/day.

Quebec does not use fee subsidies attached to eligible parents. Any child aged 0-4 who has secured a space in a reduced contribution program may attend at the provincially-determined fee regardless of parents' employment status.

Quebec has its own program of family-related leave and benefits that is distinct from that of other provinces/territories. Under the Quebec program, there are two options that parents may choose: the Basic Plan and the Special Plan. Under these options, the Quebec maternity/parental leave benefits are paid at an income replacement rate of 70-75%. There is, as well, a paid paternity leave period available only for new fathers.

## PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

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### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	81,900
1	82,500
2	88,800
3	83,200
4	88,800
5	90,800
6	88,500
7	87,800
8	86,200
9	77,800
10	85,000
11	75,600
12	77,500
Total	1,094,500

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### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	253,200
3-5	262,800
6-12	578,400
Total	1,094,500

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### Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	54,400
1	54,500
2	63,600
3	60,500
4	61,300
5	63,100
6	64,800
7	62,800
8	61,000
9	55,800
10	61,900
11	54,800
12	56,500
Total	775,100

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**Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age	Number of children
0-2	172,500
3-5	184,900
6-12	417,600
Total	775,100

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**Children 0-14 years identifying with an Aboriginal group (2011)**

Age	First Nations	Metis	Inuit	Multiple	Other	Total
0-4	7,595	2,745	1,605	160	130	12,230
5-9	6,675	2,430	1,455	70	160	10,790
10-14	6,370	2,425	1,380	85	275	10,540
Total	20,645	7,600	4,440	320	560	33,565

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**Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age of youngest child	Number of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-2	174,300	77.2
3-5	123,400	82.0
6-15	317,200	86.2

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**FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE**

In 2006, the Quebec Parental Insurance Plan replaced the benefits previously available to Quebec parents under the federal Employment Insurance plan. The Quebec Parental Insurance Plan stipulates that financial benefits be paid to all eligible workers — salaried or self employed — who take maternity leave, paternity leave, parental leave, or adoption leave. Parents may choose between two options: the Basic Plan or the Special Plan. In so doing, they decide the duration of their leave as well as their income replacement rate. The choice of plan is determined by the first parent in the family to receive benefits and cannot be modified.

**Maternity leave**

Natural mother only and cannot be shared between the two parents.

*Basic Plan:* 18 weeks of benefits at the rate of 70%

*Special Plan:* 15 weeks of benefits at the rate of 75%

**Paternity leave**

Father only and cannot be shared between the two parents.

*Basic Plan:* Five weeks of benefits at the rate of 70%

*Special Plan:* Three weeks of benefits at the rate of 75%

**Parental benefits**

The total number of weeks of parental benefits can be taken by either parent or shared by both, based on an agreement between the two. Parents may take these weeks simultaneously or consecutively.

*Basic Plan:* 32 weeks of benefits, with the first seven weeks at the rate of 70%, and the following 25 weeks at the rate of 55%

*Special Plan:* 25 weeks of benefits at the rate of 75%

**Adoption leave**

*Basic Plan:* 37 weeks of benefits, with the first 12 weeks at the rate of 70%, and the following 25 weeks at the rate of 55%

*Special Plan:* 28 weeks of benefits at the rate of 75%

**Family-related leave**

Ten days per year.

## KINDERGARTEN

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Ministère de l'Éducation, de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche  
Direction de la formation générale des jeunes  
Responsable du programme d'éducation préscolaire et des services de garde en milieu scolaire  
Édifice Marie-Guyart, 17e étage  
1035, rue De La Chevrotière  
Québec, QC, G1R 5A5  
Telephone: (418) 644-5240 poste 2517  
Website: <http://www.education.gouv.qc.ca/>

### LEGISLATION

Quebec. National Assembly. *Education Act*. R.S.Q., c.I-13.3  
Quebec. National Assembly. *An Act to amend the Education Act concerning the Conseil scolaire de l'île de Montréal*. Bill 41 (2001, c. 30).  
Quebec. National Assembly. *An Act to amend the Education Act*, Bill 35. (2001, c. 46).  
Quebec. National Assembly. *Education Act for Cree, Inuit and Naskapi Native Persons*. R.S.Q., c. I-14.

### KINDERGARTEN SERVICES

**FIVE YEAR OLD KINDERGARTEN (MATERNELLE)**  
Kindergarten for five year olds is delivered on a full school-day basis in English and French public and private schools. Kindergarten is provided for 23.5 hours/week for 36 weeks or 846 hours a year.

**FOUR YEAR OLD KINDERGARTEN PART-DAY (PRÉ-MATERNELLE)**  
This program varies from 9.15 hours/ week for 36 weeks (or 332 hours) to 11.45 hours/week for 36 weeks (or 412 hours). It may be four part-days or five part-days. Some programs include parent participation. Originally, four year old kindergarten was developed for low-income children, although this is no longer the sole clientele of these programs.

**FOUR YEAR OLD KINDERGARTEN FULL-DAY (PRÉ-MATERNELLE)**  
In September 2013, the law was modified to allow full time four year old kindergarten for low income children in targeted neighbourhoods. Some programs include parent participation. The goal of this was to provide services for children without other publicly funded early childhood education provision.

**PASSE-PARTOUT**  
Passe-Partout is a program developed for low-income four year olds and their parents, mostly living in rural Quebec. Passe-Partout is designed to provide targeted parents with the tools they need to help them enable their children to develop, grow and succeed at school. Passe-Partout consists of a minimum of 16 sessions a year with the children and eight with the parents.

**AGE ELIGIBILITY**  
*Five year old kindergarten:* Five years old by September 30  
*Four year old kindergarten:* Four years old by September 30

**COMPULSORY**  
Not compulsory. Entitlement is legislated.

**HOURS**  
*Five year old kindergarten (maternelle):* 23.5 hours/week for 36 weeks or 846 hours a year.  
*Four year old kindergarten part-day program (pré-maternelle):* program varies from 9.15 hours/ week for 36 weeks (or 332 hours) to 11.45 hours/week for 36 weeks (or 412 hours)  
*Four year old kindergarten full day programme (pré-maternelle):* 23.5 hours/week for 36 weeks or 846 hours a year.  
*Passe-Partout:* minimum of 16 sessions with children only and eight with parents.

**CLASS SIZE**  
Class size limits are defined in the collective agreements.  
*Five year olds:* Maximum 20, average 18  
*Four year olds:* Maximum 18, average 15  
*Multi-age groups:* Maximum 15 children per group



## TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

*Four year degree:* Baccalauréat en Éducation préscolaire et enseignement au primaire.

## CURRICULUM

[The Quebec preschool education program](#)

## SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN

### Allocations 2013-2014 :

Kindergarten (five year olds)	\$395, 968,824
Kindergarten (four year olds part-day)	15, 061,915
Kindergarten (four year olds full-day)	5, 559,818
Passe-Partout	14, 382,879
K-12 per pupil spending	\$10,201

## REGULATED CHILD CARE

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Ministère de la Famille  
Direction de l'accessibilité et de la qualité des services de garde  
600, rue Fullum, 6e étage  
Montréal (Quebec) G1R 4Z1  
Tél: 418-643-1681  
Website: <http://www.mfa.gouv.qc.ca>

### LEGISLATION

Ministère de la Famille:  
*Educational Childcare Act* (R.S.Q., chapter S-4.1.1).  
*Educational Childcare Regulation* chapter S-4.1.1, r. 2  
*Reduced contribution Regulation* (R.S.Q., c. [S-4.1.1., r.1])

Ministère de l'Éducation, de l'Enseignement Supérieur et de la recherche:  
*Règlement sur les services de garde en milieu scolaire*.  
L.R.Q., c.I-13.3., a. 454.1; 1997, c.58, a.51; 1997, c.96, a.132.

## CHILD CARE SERVICES

### UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

*Maximum number of children permitted:* Six, excluding the caregiver's own children.

### Jardins d'enfants (nursery schools)

Nursery schools are programs for a minimum of seven children aged 2-5 years on a regular basis for up to four hours/day. These may be unregulated only if they were operating before October 25th 2005 and are still continuing to operate as of today. Thus, a day care permit is compulsory to operate a nursery school opened after October 25 2005.

### Haltes-garderies (stop-over centres)

There are two categories:

- (1) Occasional organized child care services in a health or social institution, in a commercial establishment, at a fair or social exhibition or during a special event for children whose parents are on site and can be reached if needed.
- (2) Temporary child care offered by public bodies or community organizations as part of their mandate to support and assist families, or as part of a specific activity involving parents or children.

### REGULATED CHILD CARE

#### Centre de la petite enfance (CPE) (Child care centre)

A CPE provides educational child care primarily for children 0-4 years old. Children may be cared for in a facility (centre)-based program for periods not exceeding 48 consecutive hours. A CPE may have up to five facilities (centres), each of which may have up to 80 children, and no more than two may be housed in one building. CPEs must be non-profit or a cooperative whose board of directors corresponds to section 7 of the *Educational Childcare Act* (at least seven members).

#### Garderie (day care centre)

An organization that provides child care in a facility of not more than 80 children, where children receive care regularly for periods not exceeding 48 consecutive hours.. No more than two facilities may be housed in one building. Garderies are generally for-profit operations or operated by a non-profit group that does not have a majority of parents on the board of directors (e.g. church-run centres). Most garderies are for-profit.

There are two types of garderies: those funded to provide reduced contribution child care and those that are unfunded “at the gate” (parents pay full fees and may claim a tax credit).

#### Service de garde en milieu familial (home or family child care services)

Regulated home child care providers are overseen by 162 accredited home Child Care Coordinating Offices (Bureaux coordonnateurs de la garde en milieu familial). Accreditation is granted for a renewable period of three years. Child Care Coordinating Offices (CCCO) are responsible to monitor application of the standards give assistance to providers. Most CCCOs are CPEs; some are free-standing non-profit organizations.

Home child care services are provided in a private residence by an individual for up to six children including the provider’s own children; no more than two children may be under 18 months. Nonetheless, if the provider wishes to receive more than two children under 18 months of age (including her own children and her assistant’s children), she must be assisted by another adult. If the provider is assisted by another adult, nine children are permitted with no more than four children under 18 months, including their own children.

#### Services de garde en milieu scolaire (school-age child care)

These programs are provided by school boards or private educational institutions for children attending pré-maternelle (pre-kindergarten), maternelle (kindergarten) and elementary grades. They are under the jurisdiction of the MEESR. School boards are obliged to provide school-age child care when there is a demonstrated need.

### CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

Quebec has a non-compulsory curriculum framework [Accueillir la petite enfance](#) for all CPEs and garderies. It was introduced in 1997 and updated in 2007.

All CPEs and garderies must apply an educational program with different activities aimed *inter alia* at fostering children’s overall development and at helping children gradually adapt to life in society and to integrate to a group.

### CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Admission to a regular child care program is at the discretion of the CPE, garderie or the home child care provider. However, Quebec’s objectives regarding children with special needs in child care programs strongly favor inclusion.

For a child who has a diagnosed disability or who meets the ministry definition of a “disabled” child, a one-time grant of \$2,200 and an additional \$39.80/day/child (2014/2015) in addition to the regular operating grants is available. In addition to the supplementary allowance allocated to child care establishments receiving children with a disability, an assistance measure has been put in place for the integration of children with significant special needs into child care services.

### ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

Quebec regulates child care on-reserve. In 2015, there were 60 facilities and a home Child Care Coordinating Office in Aboriginal communities. All those facilities are non-profit organizations and receive funding from MFA.

The Quebec government has reached agreements with four Aboriginal organizations, thereby delegating some legal authority for child care under the law. There are also five urban Aboriginal child care centres (six facilities) and an urban Aboriginal home Child Care Coordinating Office. These centres are located in Montreal, Quebec, Val d’Or, Trois-Rivières and La Tuque.

### SPACE STATISTICS (2014)

Number of regulated child care spaces				
<i>Centre-based (0-5 years, child care centres and garderies)</i>				
Age group	CPEs	Subsidized garderies	Non-funded garderies	Total Centre-based
Less than 12 months (1 year old)	4,901	1,615	1,681	8,197
1 - 2 years old	14,565	6,863	6,108	27,536
2 - 4 year olds	65,762	31,606	19,274	116,642
5 year olds and up	1,389	1,046	1,557	3,992
<b>Total (0-5 years) Regulated by the Ministère de la Famille</b>				
	86,617	41,130	28,620	156,367

**Regulated family child care***Enrolled family child care spaces*

Less than 12 months (1 year old)	13,140
1 - 2 years old	22,296
2 - 4 year olds	57,883
5 year olds and up	1,018
Total enrolled family child care	94,337

*Total spaces regulated by Ministère de la Famille*

Reduced contribution spaces (centres 0-4 and family child care)	222,084
Not reduced contribution spaces	28,620
Total	250,704

*School-age*

Total school-age child care spaces	305,743
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(Voir le ministère de l'Éducation, de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche pour la mise à jour de cette donnée)

**Total number of spaces regulated by the Ministère de la Famille and under the aegis of MELS** 556,447

(Voir le ministère de l'Éducation, de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche (MEESR) pour la mise à jour de cette donnée)

**Children with special needs**

<b>in regulated child care</b>	5,816
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<b>Children receiving fee subsidies</b>	Not applicable
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**Number of child care programs**

Number of CPEs	978
Number of centres that are part of CPEs	1,453
Number of garderies	1,544
With reduced contribution spaces	678
Without reduced contribution spaces	866
Number of school-age centres	Not available
Number of Child Care Coordinating Offices	163
Number of family child care providers	15,514

**Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces***Centre-based spaces*

Non-profit (CPEs)	84,672
Garderies (for-profit and other non-CPE centres)	68,809
Garderies with reduced contribution spaces	41,036
Garderies without reduced contribution spaces	27,773
School-age spaces (school board operated)	305,743

**Parent fees**

In 2014, Quebec still set a flat fee for children in non-profit child care centres (CPEs), in funded garderies, regulated home child care and school-aged child care in schools; most recently, the fee was \$7.30/day. Spaces with these fees are referred to as "reduced contribution spaces". Child care operated by school boards only offer reduced contribution spaces on the days school is in session.

*Note: See Overview section for funding changes in 2015 requiring further parental contributions at tax time.*

Unfunded for-profit centres (garderies) are not required to charge a provincially set parent fee; information on their fees is not available. A rebate (tax credit) from the Quebec government is paid to parents using these centres.

In 2014, a national survey of child care fees in Canada's large cities included the following Quebec cities:

<i>City</i>	<i>Median monthly preschooler fee</i>
Gatineau	\$152
Laval	152
Montreal	152
Longueuil	152
Quebec City	152

*Note: In Quebec at the time these data were collected, fees were set at \$7/day or \$152/month by the province. Therefore, Gatineau, Laval, Montreal, Longueuil and Quebec City fees were the same.*

## STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

### REGULATED CENTRES (CPES AND GARDERIES)

<b>Maximum facility size:</b>	80 spaces
<b>Maximum room size:</b>	not specified
<b>Maximum staff/child ratios</b>	
Age	Staff:child ratios
0-17 months	1:5
18 months – 4 years	1:8
4 years – 5 years	1:10
5 years and older	1:20
<i>Note: For a multi-age group, ratio is based on the ratio for the youngest child in the group.</i>	

#### Centre staff qualification requirements

Centre (facility) staff qualifications: At least two child care staff members out of three (2/3) in the centre must be qualified and present each day with the children while child care is being provided. There is no training requirement for centre directors.

“Qualified” is defined as a child care staff member holding a college diploma in early childhood education or any other equivalent training recognized by the Minister (such as a one-year Attestation d’études collégiales combined with three years experience).

New and expanded CPes and garderies have five years to conform to the required 2/3 ratios of qualified staff. Until that time they must conform to a 1/3 ratio (one in three is required to be qualified).

There are no educational requirements for staff working in school-age child care programs. However, a school board may require the lead staff to have an early childhood education diploma.

#### Parent involvement

A non-profit child care centre’s board of directors must be made up of at least seven members, 2/3 of whom (minimum of five) are parent-users of the centre. At least one board member must come from the business, institutional, social, education or community sectors and no more than two shall be staff at the centre.

A garderie’s licence holder must set up an advisory committee made up of five parents and consult with the parent committee on all aspects of the care the children receive in the centre, particularly with respect to implementation of the educational program, services provided and how complaints are processed.

The composition of the boards of directors of organizations accredited as Home Child Care Coordinating Offices is determined by the type of organization.

#### Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

The MFA issues licences for up to a five-year period. MFA inspectors may visit any licensed operation to monitor its compliance with regulations.

Licence holders of CPes and garderies should receive at least one inspection visit during the period that their licence is valid—generally once every five years. Otherwise there is no specified inspection schedule.

In the six months after the issuance of a new permit, an inspection is conducted for the purpose of information and prevention. The aim of this inspection is to evaluate quality, and to request corrective measures if there are irregularities.

Inspectors are not required to have a degree, diploma, or training in early childhood education.

Quebec does not issue conditional or provisional licences. If a centre is found to be in non-compliance with legislated requirements but there is no immediate danger to the health or well-being of the children, MFA informs the centre’s board of directors or owner in writing that the program is in non-compliance with a specific regulation(s) and requests rectification. A follow-up check is done by an inspector when sufficient time is deemed to have passed. Repeated instances of non-compliance that do not pose an immediate threat may result in administrative penalties, administrative sanctions or penal sanctions.

The operator may appeal the loss of a licence (or the refusal by MFA to renew a licence) or may contest a decision to the Tribunal administratif du Québec. Its decision is binding.

## REGULATED HOME CHILD CARE

### Model of organization

Agency model

Home child care providers are supervised by des bureaux coordonnateurs de la garde en milieu familial agréés (Accredited Home Child Care Coordinating Offices).

### Maximum capacity

Up to six children including the provider's children under nine years; no more than two children may be under 18 months. If the provider is assisted by another adult, they may care for nine children, including both providers' own children, with not more than four children being under 18 months.

### Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

Home Child Care Coordinating Offices are required to do three on-site home visits per year. The CCCO is responsible for ensuring that providers meet the regulations.

### Home child care provider qualification requirements

Home child care providers must hold a first-aid certificate and complete a training program of at least 45 hours pertaining to child development, health, safety and diet issues, and organization and leadership in a "life environment". Many Home Child Care Coordinating Offices provide training for providers. Providers are also required to take a 6 hour proficiency course a year (cours de perfectionnement).

## FUNDING

### CHILD CARE SERVICES ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

Quebec provides funding to all CPEs, to funded garderies and to regulated family child care providers via Home Child Care Coordinating Offices through a formula approach. Non-profit and for-profit facilities are generally treated the same way vis-à-vis operational funding although the Basic Formula for non-profits is higher than for for-profits. Only non-profits are eligible for capital funding.

Parents who use unfunded garderies and unregulated family child care arrangements are eligible for a child care tax credit (reimbursement up to 90%).

## TYPES OF FUNDING

### Fee subsidies

Quebec does not use a system of parent fee subsidies.

### One time funding

Capital funding is available to develop new CPEs.

### Recurring/operational funding

The majority of Quebec's child care services are base or operationally funded (except unfunded garderies). A funding formula based on licensed capacity and occupancy rate determines the amount of funds a CPE receives. In 2014, all CPEs were publicly-funded to provide child care at \$7.30/day; since 2015, parents also pay the additional parental contribution at tax time for all age groups.

There are no unfunded non-profit child care centres (CPEs). Garderies, mostly for-profit operations, are also publicly funded to provide \$7.30/day care for 0-4 year olds but the provincial funding formula provides somewhat less funding than CPEs.

There are also a number of other categories of public funding available that CPEs can access such as: minor capital, professional development, staff benefits, etc.

## PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE

<b>Fee subsidies</b>	N/A
<b>One time funding</b>	
Capital expenditures	\$30,001,500
<b>Recurring funding</b>	
Funding to CPEs and garderies	\$2,222,891,100
Pension plan for employees in child care	80,216,500
<b>Total child care expenditure for children 0-4 years</b>	<b>\$2,333,109,100</b>
<b>Expenditure on school-age child care (by MEESR)</b>	<b>\$152,300,000</b>
<b>Total regulated child care</b>	<b>\$2,485,409,100</b>

*Note: These figures do not reflect the additional funds spent to reimburse parents using unfunded garderies (regulated child care) and unregulated child care.*





## OVERVIEW

Ontario has made a number of significant early childhood education and child care (ECEC) policy and program transitions. Following a phase-in period, the Early Years Division of the Ministry of Education has now assumed all responsibility for child care, full-day kindergarten and family support programs. New legislation and regulations are in a transitional phase.

Child care is delivered by a mixture of non-profit, for-profit and publicly-operated (municipal/regional entities, or CMSMS/DSSABs and First Nations) programs with non-profit services predominating. Regulated child care is provided in centres (including part-day nursery schools) and by providers in their own homes with oversight provided by licensed home child care agencies.

Kindergarten is delivered by public (non-denominational and publicly funded Catholic) schools and by privately funded independent schools.

Family support programs are delivered through approximately 145 lead agencies and local government entities, as well as by other entities.

Overall policy, licensing and supporting provision of child care are provincial government responsibilities. In addition, Ontario is the sole province/territory in which local government entities play a key role in child care including financing, local service management (coordination, administration and planning) and public delivery of child care services. Forty-seven local government entities (CMSMs and DSSABs) are designated child care and early years Service System Managers; local service planning is mandated. As well, the province provides funding to 74 First Nations and three transfer payment agencies in order to support child care and family support programs on-reserve.

Ontario is also the sole province that offers full-day kindergarten for all four year olds (junior kindergarten). As of September 2014, all four and five year olds attending publicly funded schools had access to a full-day kindergarten program. The provincial government requires that child care outside the instructional (kindergarten) day be offered on regular school days for four and five-year olds when there is “sufficient demand”, either as an “extended day” program delivered directly by the school board or as a “before and after school program” offered by licensed child care centres.

## PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

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### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	141,200
1	144,300
2	150,500
3	139,900
4	151,200
5	140,800
6	147,800
7	149,700
8	140,600
9	146,700
10	133,800
11	138,600
12	153,800
Total	1,878,900

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### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	436,000
3-5	431,900
6-12	1,011,000
Total	1,878,900

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### Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	87,800
1	84,100
2	94,000
3	84,600
4	93,300
5	86,500
6	96,400
7	93,600
8	92,600
9	98,700
10	89,500
11	93,200
12	106,600
Total	1,200,700

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**Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age	Number of children
0-2	265,900
3-5	264,400
6-12	670,600
Total	1,200,700

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**Children 0-14 years identifying with an Aboriginal group (2011)**

Age	First Nations	Metis	Inuit	Multiple	Other	Total
0-4	17,575	5,390	365	355	525	24,210
5-9	17,475	5,190	530	315	525	23,980
10-14	18,850	5,995	310	195	650	26,000
Total	53,850	16,575	1,205	870	1,695	74,195

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**Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age of youngest child	Number of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-2	270,400	69.6
3-5	188,300	76.5
6-15	563,500	81.3

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**FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE****Maternity leave**

Seventeen weeks to the natural mother only.

**Parental leave**

Thirty-five weeks for birth mothers who took maternity leave; 37 weeks for other parent. Leaves may be taken by both parents consecutively.

**Adoption leave**

Thirty-seven weeks.

*Note: Paid maternity and parental leave provisions are divided between federal and provincial/territorial governments. All leave provisions are set under employment standards legislation by provinces/territories. The federal government benefit for these leaves pays for up to 15 weeks of maternity leave and 35 weeks of parental leave/adoptive leave (either parent) for new parents eligible under Employment Insurance rules. In all jurisdictions except Quebec (which has its own approach), the benefit is paid at a rate of 55% of earned income to a maximum of \$524/week (2015).*

## KINDERGARTEN

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Ministry of Education  
Early Years Division  
24th Floor, Mowat Block  
900 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON, M7A 1L2  
Telephone: (416) 325-2929 or (800) 387-5514  
Website: [www.edu.gov.on.ca/kindergarten/](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/kindergarten/)

### LEGISLATION

Ontario. Legislative Assembly. *Education Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2

### AGE ELIGIBILITY

Junior kindergarten: Four years old by December 31.  
Senior kindergarten: Five years old by December 31.

### COMPULSORY

Attendance is not compulsory. Most four and five year olds attend full-day junior and senior kindergarten.

### HOURS

Full instructional school day.

### CLASS SIZE

There is no cap on class size in kindergarten. The provincial class size average for full-day kindergarten has ranged between 24.5 and 25.5 over the first five years of implementation.

Full-day kindergarten classrooms are staffed by a certificated teacher and an early childhood educator who is registered with the provincial College of Early Childhood Educators (RECE) in the classroom. Classes of 15 students or fewer are not required to have an RECE. There may be only one class of 15 or fewer in any school with the exception of dual track French Immersion schools which may have one such class per language track.

## TEACHER AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR QUALIFICATIONS

A teaching certificate from the Ontario College of Teachers is required (requires an undergraduate degree and two years of teacher education).

No special credential or early childhood training is required for kindergarten teachers although they are required to have specialization in primary/junior education.

Registered Early Childhood Educators are required to be currently registered with the provincial College of Early Childhood Educators.

*Note: See Regulated child care section for more information about RECE classification.*

### CURRICULUM

[The full-day early learning kindergarten program](#)

### SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN

K-12 per pupil spending \$12,117

## LICENSED CHILD CARE

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Ministry of Education  
Early Years Division  
24th Floor, Mowat Block  
900 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2  
Telephone: (416) 325-2929 or (800) 387-5514  
Website: [www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/)

### LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

The new *Child Care and Early Years Act* (CCEYA), 2014 came into effect on August 31, 2015 replacing *The Day Nurseries Act* as the legislation governing the provision of child care in Ontario.

The government is phasing in child care regulation changes under the new legislation.

The new *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014* and its regulations can be found online at:

- *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014*  
<http://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/14c11>
- O. Reg. 137/2015: General  
<http://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r15137>
- O. Reg. 138/2015: Funding, Cost Sharing and Financial Assistance  
<http://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r15138>

## CHILD CARE SERVICES

### UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

#### Unlicensed home child care

Child care arrangements termed “unlicensed home child care” by the Ontario government are not publicly monitored or governed by regulations other than maximum numbers of children. There are no stipulations regarding where it is provided, so it may or may not be in a provider’s home or family residence.

#### Maximum number of children permitted

A maximum of five children under the age of 13 and no more than two children under the age of two are permitted to be cared for at any one time. This includes the caregiver’s own children under the age of six although the caregiver’s four and five year olds are excluded during the school year if the children are enrolled in full-day kindergarten, and the care meets the additional criteria set out under the Act and regulations. A transitional regulation is currently in place to exclude counting children in care aged 10 and up.

#### Extended day programs for four and five year olds in full-day kindergarten

Extended day programs operated by a school board are not required to be licensed.

#### Recreation programs for school-aged children

“Authorized recreational and skill building programs” for children six years or older are not required to be licensed.

### REGULATED CHILD CARE (TERMED “LICENSED CHILD CARE”)

#### Child care centres

Group or centre-based programs operating less than 24 hours/day for five or more unrelated children under 13 years.

*Note: The CCEYA defines “child” as a person who is younger than 13 years old. However, children with special needs who are already in the child care system or entered child care before August 30, 2017 will be eligible to receive funding and financial assistance until they reach 18 years of age, provided that they meet other eligibility criteria that are unrelated to age (see Ontario Regulation 138/15).*

Child care centres include:

- Full-day centres
- Nursery schools (part-time)
- School-age before- and after-school programs for children aged four to 12 years operated by third party providers.

#### Licensed home child care

Licensed home child care was previously referred to as “private home day care” in provincial legislation. Individual home child care providers are not licensed by the Ministry of Education but are contracted by home child care agencies which are licensed.

Six children under 13 years are permitted in each home. Home providers may care for no more than two children under the age of two. Providers must include their own children under the age of six although the provider’s four and five year olds are excluded during the school year if the children are enrolled in full-day kindergarten and the care meets the additional criteria set out under the Act and regulations. A transition regulation is currently in place to exclude counting children in care aged 10 and up.

## CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

ELECT (Early Learning for Every Child Today) is a key provincial document about learning and development.

[How Does Learning Happen?: Ontario’s Pedagogy for the Early Years](#), issued in June 2015, is Ontario’s official pedagogical statement for licensed child care settings. Programs are required to be consistent with its approach. Regulations aligning with this document help the operator put it into place.

## CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Ontario supports inclusion in child care and approved recreation programs through regulations and Special Needs Resourcing Funding; a few segregated centres are still in place.

As outlined in Ontario Regulation 137/15, section 52, child care operators are required to ensure that an up-to-date individualized support plan is in place for each child with special needs who receives child care. Licensees of a centre with children with special needs must accommodate the individualized support plan of each child and ensure that the program is appropriate for the ages and developmental level of children with special needs and is inclusive of all children.

Special Needs Resourcing provides staffing, equipment, supplies and services to support inclusion.

Resource teachers/consultants may work with several children in multiple locations and can also provide professional learning experiences to individuals working with children with special needs in licensed child care settings and approved recreation programs.

The level of service per child can vary, depending on the child's needs, the local service model, and available resources.

Resource teachers/consultants typically provide a wide range of services and supports for children with special needs and their families. These supports may include providing child care staff with program adaptation strategies and professional development, supporting the development of individualized support plans, developmental screens, providing referrals to community agencies, providing information and resources for parents and obtaining specialized equipment as required. At a minimum, it is recommended that resource teachers/consultants hold a diploma in Early Childhood Education, have additional training/experience/education related to working with children with special needs, hold a standard first aid including infant/child CPR certificate and obtain a vulnerable sector check.

## ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

Ontario funds and regulates on-reserve child care.

As of April 1, 2015, the province provided funding to 74 First Nations and three transfer payment agencies in

order to support child care and family support programs on-reserve. This funding is primarily targeted towards fee subsidies, Special Needs Resourcing, Ontario Works Child Care, health and safety and funding to facilitate child care transformation and capacity building in First Nations communities.

As of March 31, 2015, there were 56 licensed child care centres on reserve with a licensed capacity of 3,191. There were also two licensed home child care agencies with eight homes on-reserve.

Ontario cost-shares regular fee subsidies for licensed on-reserve child care programs on an 80/20 basis with First Nations. The province pays 100% of other child care expenses (wage subsidies, Special Needs Resourcing, transformation, etc.). First Nations manage the fee subsidy systems in their communities.

Ontario recovers the majority of expenditures on regular fee subsidies from the federal government under the 1965 *Memorandum of Agreement Respecting Welfare Programs for Indians*, an agreement with the federal government. Ontario does not recover funding associated with a number of on-reserve expenditures including, for example, Special Needs Resourcing or wage enhancement.

## SPACE STATISTICS (2014)

### Number of regulated child care spaces

<i>Centre-based</i>	
Age Group	Total (Full day centres and nursery schools)
Infants (0-18 months)	10,250
Toddlers (18-30 months)	34,772
Preschool (2.5 - 5 years)	102,133
Kindergarten-age (3 years and 8 months - 5 years)	52,168
School-age (6-12 years)	118,545
<b>Total centre-based spaces</b>	<b>317,868</b>
Family child care	16,142
<b>Total number of regulated spaces</b>	<b>334,010</b>

*Note: Breakdowns of full-day and part-day centre-based child care are not available. Figures for nursery school (part-day) are not available.*

*Note: The figure for home child care represents the estimated enrolment. Thus, total number includes the licensed capacity of child care centres and enrolment in regulated home child care.*

<b>Children receiving services through Special Needs</b>	
<b>Resourcing in regulated child care</b>	Not available
<hr/>	
<b>Children receiving fee subsidies</b>	137,645
(Date unavailable)	
<hr/>	
<b>Number of regulated child care programs</b>	
<i>Centre-based (full and part-day)</i>	
For preschool-age children	4,361
School-based child care centres: Total (all ages)	
(included in centre-based)	2,549
<i>Home child care</i>	
Number of home child care agencies	126
Number of home child care homes	5,765
<i>Note: The 4,361 centres “for pre-school age children” include centres that also serve school-age children.</i>	
<i>Note: The number for school-based child care centres includes 2,529 publicly-funded and 20 private (privately funded) schools.</i>	
<hr/>	
<b>Sponsorship of regulated spaces</b>	
<i>Full and part-time regulated centre-based spaces</i>	
Public (estimate by CRRU)	5,389
Non-profit	235,492
For-profit	76,987
<i>Regulated family child care (home child care)</i>	
	Agencies      Homes
Non-profit	113      5,403
For-profit	13      362
<i>Note: Publicly operated child care can be delivered by 47 provincially-designated “delivery agents” termed CMSMs (Community Municipal Service Managers) and DSSABs (District Social Service Administration Boards).</i>	
<i>A figure for the number of publicly operated spaces was not available for 2014. The estimate was calculated based on 2012 data provided by the provincial government minus the number of known space losses and additions in publicly operated centres in the 2012-2014 period. The provincial government’s supplied number of non-profit spaces, which had included public spaces, was adjusted accordingly.</i>	
<i>Note: See Municipal role section below.</i>	
<i>Note: The figures for non-profit family child care include publicly operated home child care agencies and homes.</i>	

<b>Parent fees</b>	
There is no set parent fee.	
Ontario does not collect fee information. However, data from a 2012 national survey of child care centres and staff calculated median monthly fees by age group.	
<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Median monthly fee</i>
Infant	\$1,152/month
Toddler	925/month
Preschool	835/month
<hr/>	
In 2014, a national survey of large cities included a number of Ontario cities:	
<i>City</i>	<i>Median monthly preschooler fees</i>
Windsor	\$864.30
London	1,030.70
Kitchener	909.70
Hamilton	985.30
Brampton	1,098.30
Mississauga	1,104.70
Toronto	1,332.70
Ottawa	1,026.00
<i>Note: See Table 3 in this document for age breakdowns.</i>	

## STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

### REGULATED CENTRES

**Maximum centre size:** not specified

#### Maximum staff/child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff: child ratios	Max. group sizes
Under 18 mths	3:10	10
18 mths-30 mths	1:5	15
31 mths-5 years	1:8	16
44 mths-67 mths as of Aug 31	1:13	26
68 mths-12 years as of Aug 31	1:15	30
9 years or older	1:20	20

#### Centre staff qualification requirements

Centre supervisors must have a university degree or a two year diploma in early childhood education from an approved Ontario College of Applied Arts and Technology (OCAAT) or approved post-secondary program, at least two years experience providing licensed child care and be a member in good standing registered with the College of Early Childhood Educators (a Registered Early Childhood Educator or RECE).

One staff person with each group of children must have a degree or two year early childhood education diploma from an OCAAT or an approved post-secondary program and be a member in good standing registered with the College of Early Childhood Educators of Ontario (an RECE).

The College of Early Childhood Educators (the College) is a self-regulatory body that has the statutory mandate to govern and regulate the profession of early childhood education in Ontario. The College was established in 2007 by the provincial government and has the primary responsibility to serve the public interest, including that of children and parents, by promoting and providing leadership for the profession of early childhood educators, developing and maintaining professional standards, establishing requirements for professional development, and investigating complaints from the public about the conduct, competency and fitness to practice of members and, if necessary, disciplining members. ECEs are a distinct professional group in Ontario. Individuals who wish to call themselves an “early childhood educator” or who hold an ECE diploma or equivalent and work within the defined scope of practice are required to register as a member of the College.

#### REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

Licensed home child care agencies inspect, approve and contract with home child caregivers (who are not licensed) and are responsible for ensuring that provincial requirements for care are met.

Care in each location is provided to six children or fewer under 13 years of age on premises other than the home of the parent/guardian of the child.

All children in care with the provider must be counted and not exceed the limit of six at any one time. Further, there can be no more than two children under two years of age. The provider’s own children under the age of six must be included when determining the number of children in care, although the provider’s four and five year olds are excluded during the school year if the children are enrolled in full-day kindergarten and the care meets the additional criteria set out under the Act and regulations. A transition regulation is currently in place to exclude counting children in care aged 10 and up.

#### Model of organization

Agency model

#### Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

A licensed home child care agency home visitor is required for 25 homes and is required to conduct unannounced quarterly in-home monitoring visits to all providers. The agency is responsible for ensuring that provincial requirements for care are met.

As part of the province’s monitoring of agencies for licensing, provincial program advisors inspect a sample of homes to determine whether the agency is in compliance with the *Child Care and Early Years Act* and its regulations.

#### Family child care provider qualification requirements

No caregiver training qualifications are specified in provincial regulations.

Regulation requires caregivers to be older than 18 years. The caregiver and anyone else normally resident in the home child care environment or regularly on the premises when children are present are required to have a Criminal Reference Check.

Agency home visitors are required to be Registered Early Childhood Educators and have two years experience working with children younger than thirteen years unless otherwise approved by a director.

#### MUNICIPAL ROLE

In Ontario, local government entities play several key roles in child care. These include financing, local service management (coordination, administration and planning) and public delivery of child care services. Forty-seven local government entities (CMSMs and DSSABs) have been designated child care Local Service System Managers by the provincial government.

As part of a new child care funding formula and new policy framework, CMSMs and DSSABs now have increased discretion about how most child care funds are allocated between categories such as fee subsidies and operating funding.

*The Ontario Child Care Service Management and Funding Guideline*, available online, outlines the roles and responsibilities of the designated Service Managers.

In Ontario, the provision of child care is cost shared between the province and local service system managers. Municipalities are required to cost share requirement up to 20%. However, some contribute additional municipal funds in addition to the cost sharing requirements.

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## FUNDING

### CHILD CARE SERVICES ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

All child care services eligible for all funding unless otherwise specified.

### TYPES OF FUNDING

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Ontario provides child care funding to CMSMs/DSSABs using a funding formula based on publicly available data such as the Low Income Cut Off (LICO), Population of Ontario, Level of Education Attainment and knowledge of either Official Language.

Local Service Managers are responsible for determining how to spend their child care allocation within 16 expensed/program categories with a few limitations (e.g. a minimum of 4.1% of funding must be spent on Special Needs Resourcing). Local Service System Managers determine allocations to school-based licensed child care programs jointly with school boards.

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#### Fee subsidies

Municipalities (CMSMs and DDSABs) are responsible for managing and administering fee subsidies. All regulated services can receive subsidized children unless the local Service System Manager stipulates otherwise.

Families are determined to be eligible for fee subsidies using a provincial income test that takes into account the family's total child care costs and family income; there is no upper income cut-off. Eligibility does not guarantee a subsidy; there are ordinarily long CMSM/DDSAB waiting lists for fee subsidies.

There are no set subsidy rates. Ontario permits subsidization up to the full cost of the space, as determined by the service. However, some municipalities may set maximum subsidy rates (below the full cost).

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#### One time funding

School-based child care capital funding is provided to school boards to retrofit existing child care spaces previously serving four and five year olds (now in kindergarten full school-day) to serve children 0-3.8 years of age.

The policy also applies to school space not needed for educational purposes and where a school board and the municipality want to convert the space to child care for children 3.8 years and younger.

There are two categories:

- *Schools First Child Care Capital Retrofit Policy* supports non-profit operators in schools to retrofit (as well as for-profit operators that have existing agreements). School boards must develop local capital retrofit plans in partnership with municipal Service System Managers and plans must be approved by both the school boards and municipal manager for child care.
  - *The Capital Funding for New Construction of Child Care* policy provides \$120 million over three years to increase access to school-based child care for children ages 0 to 3.8 years. Similar to the Child Care Capital Retrofit plans, school boards must submit jointly approved (with municipal Service System Managers) project proposals to the ministry. This fund is to build net new spaces and create opportunities for relocation of community-based programs to schools.
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#### Recurring funding

Recurring funding in Ontario is primarily designated as Operating funding which replaced several categories including Wage Enhancement. It includes most funding for salaries and benefits as well as Special Needs Resourcing.

As well, Ontario introduced a new Wage Grant in 2015. Under this grant, which is administered by municipalities separately from Operating funding, all eligible child care staff/caregivers in regulated settings gained wage increases.

Qualifying child care workers in regulated settings gained \$1/hour in 2015 and an additional \$1/hour as of January 2016. Home child care providers in regulated settings gained an additional \$10/day increase January 2016, adding to the \$10/day increase in 2015.

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PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED  
CHILD CARE

<b>Fee subsidies</b>	\$473,000,000
<b>One time funding</b>	
Capital for communities	\$9,100,000
Capital for schools	51,300,000
Capital for replacement schools	10,400,000
French language schools	3,500,000
<b>Recurring funding (actual expenditures)</b>	
Operating funding	\$382,400,000
Special needs resourcing	97,500,000
<b>Total</b>	\$960,100,000
<b>Other funding</b>	\$7,100,000

*Note: The reported expenditures are an estimate of the provincial portion of the CMSMs/DSSAB expenditures for the 2013/2014 fiscal year*

*Note: Effective Jan 1, 2011, there are no dedicated allocations for the previous Wage Subsidy, which is now included as part of CMSMs/DDSABs General Operating allocation.*

*Note: First Nations' Ontario Works funding is included in the fee subsidy category.*



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# Manitoba

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## OVERVIEW

In Manitoba, kindergarten is a part-day non-compulsory program for all five year olds for which Manitoba Education is responsible.

Regulated child care is under the aegis of Manitoba Family Services. Manitoba provides operating funds to eligible child care centres and to regulated family and group child care homes through a “unit funding” model. This operational funding is linked to regulated age group composition and a maximum parent fee set by the provincial government, and incorporates fee subsidies for eligible families.

Regulated child care centres, including nursery schools, for 0-12 year olds are primarily non-profit with a few for-profit operations; there is no publicly-delivered child care. Regulated family child care (family and group child care homes) is delivered through an individually licensed model.

On May 1, 2014, the Minister of Family Services announced the launch of the province’s new five-year plan, [Family Choices: Manitoba’s Plan to Expand Early Learning and Child Care](#), to create more high-quality child care for families across the province.

As well in 2015, the Minister of Family Services announced the launch of a new Commission on Early Learning and Child Care that will explore ways to redesign the province’s ELCC system and create more universally accessible care for Manitoba families. It reported early in 2016. The [Commission Report is available online](#).

## PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

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### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	13,900
1	15,900
2	12,600
3	15,300
4	14,700
5	14,100
6	14,100
7	14,500
8	14,000
9	13,200
10	13,800
11	14,300
12	13,900
Total	184,200

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### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	42,400
3-5	44,100
6-12	97,800
Total	184,200

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### Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	8,100
1	8,600
2	6,900
3	8,600
4	8,200
5	8,400
6	8,600
7	8,400
8	8,900
9	8,200
10	9,300
11	9,900
12	9,000
Total	111,000

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**Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age	Number of children
0-2	23,600
3-5	25,200
6-12	62,300
Total	111,000

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**Children 0-14 years identifying with an Aboriginal group (2011)**

Age	First Nations	Metis	Inuit	Multiple	Other	Total
0-4	15,390	6,645	90	235	70	22,425
5-9	13,860	6,255	45	145	65	20,370
10-14	12,710	6,950	45	195	45	19,935
Total	41,955	19,840	180	570	180	62,730

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**Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age of youngest child	Number of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-2	24,300	64.8
3-5	17,400	74.0
6-15	48,300	83.1

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**FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE****Maternity leave**

Seventeen weeks.

**Parental leave**

Both parents may take up to 37 weeks.

*Note: Paid maternity and parental leave provisions are divided between federal and provincial/territorial governments. All leave provisions are set under employment standards legislation by provinces/territories. The federal government benefit for these leaves pays for up to 15 weeks of maternity leave and 35 weeks of parental leave/ adoptive leave (either parent) for new parents eligible under Employment Insurance rules. In all jurisdictions except Quebec (which has its own approach), the benefit is paid at a rate of 55% of earned income to a maximum of \$524/week (2015).*

## KINDERGARTEN

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Manitoba Education  
Early Childhood Education Unit  
Rm. 307-1181 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB, R3G 0T3  
Telephone: (204) 945-7188  
Website: [www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/](http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/)

### LEGISLATION

Manitoba. Legislative Assembly. *Public Schools Act*. 1987, C.S.M, c. P250. Amended 1992, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008.

### KINDERGARTEN SERVICES

In Manitoba, kindergarten is a part-day non-compulsory program for all five year olds for which Manitoba Education is responsible.

### AGE ELIGIBILITY

Five years old by December 31. There is some coverage for four year olds.

### COMPULSORY

Kindergarten is not compulsory in Manitoba. Access is not legislated but kindergarten is available throughout the province.

### HOURS

Hours of attendance (e.g. part-day five days/week or full-day two days/week) are determined by school boards. Kindergarten is mostly part-day.

### CLASS SIZE

Manitoba recently introduced a new smaller class size initiative:

- 90% of the K-3 classrooms within a school division will be required to be cap-compliant by having 20 or fewer students.

- 10% of K-3 classrooms within a school division will be permitted to exceed the 20 pupil cap; however, no K-3 classrooms will be permitted to exceed a class size of 23 pupils.

### TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Must be a certified teacher (B.Ed.). Teacher certification requires an undergraduate degree (three or four years) followed by two years of education training.

Early childhood qualifications are not required.

### CURRICULUM

[Manitoba Kindergarten Curriculum](#)

### SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN

K-12 per pupil spending \$12,150

## REGULATED CHILD CARE

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Manitoba Family Services  
Manitoba Early Learning and Child Care  
219-114 Garry Street  
Winnipeg, MB, R3C 4V6  
Telephone: (204) 945-0776  
Website: [www.manitoba.ca/childcare](http://www.manitoba.ca/childcare)

### LEGISLATION

Manitoba. Legislative Assembly. *The Community Child Care Standards Act*, C.C.S.M. c. C158. (amended June 2004, May 2010).

Manitoba. Legislative Assembly. *Child Care Regulation*, M.R. 62/86.

Manitoba. Legislative Assembly. *Child Care Worker Retirement Benefits Regulation*, M.R. 20/2011.

## CHILD CARE SERVICES

### UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

#### **Private home child care**

Care provided in a private home to not more than four children, including the provider's own children of whom not more than two are less than two years of age.

### REGULATED CHILD CARE

#### **Child care centres**

Full-day centre-based services provided for more than four continuous hours per day and three or more days per week to more than three infants or to more than four preschool age children of whom not more than three are infants, or to more than four children who are enrolled in kindergarten to Grade 6 in a school.

#### **Nursery schools**

Part-time centre-based programs for more than three infants or more than four preschool age children of whom no more than three are infants for a maximum of four continuous hours per day or for more than four continuous hours per day and less than three days per week.

#### **School-age child care**

Services provided to more than four children who are enrolled in kindergarten to Grade 6 in a school.

#### **Family child care homes**

Care in a licensed private home for a maximum of eight children, including the provider's own children under age 12 (other age groupings restrictions apply).

#### **Group child care homes**

Care in a licensed private home by two or more caregivers for a maximum of 12 children, including the providers' own children under age 12 (other age grouping restrictions apply).

#### **Occasional child care centres**

Care on a casual basis to more than four children, of whom not more than three are infants.

## CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

[Early Returns: Manitoba's ELCC Curriculum Framework for Preschool Centres and Nursery Schools](#)

[Early Returns: Manitoba's ELCC Curriculum Framework for Infant Programs](#)

The Department published *Early Returns: Manitoba's ELCC Curriculum Framework for Preschool Centres and Nursery Schools* in 2010 and *Early Returns: Manitoba's ELCC Curriculum Framework for Infant Programs* in 2012 to support quality programming for children attending licensed preschool centres, nursery schools, and infant programs. It is not obligatory for any child care program to use this curriculum.

According to *Manitoba's Child Care Regulation* 10 (2a.1), implementing a curriculum that is consistent with the facility's Curriculum Statement and *Early Returns* is required for preschool centres, nursery schools and infant programs. Developing a Curriculum Statement that accurately describes each facility's unique curriculum was added to regulation requirements for preschool centres and nursery schools on December 30, 2011, and for infant programs on July 1, 2013.

## CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The goal of the Inclusion Support Program (ISP) is to ensure that children of all abilities have equal access to, and participate meaningfully in, child care programs. To reach this goal, the program provides grants to licensed non-profit child care centres, nursery schools, and family and group child care homes to better support the needs of eligible children with cognitive or physical disabilities, behavioural or emotional issues.

Staffing grants allow non-profit child care facilities to hire additional staff to help facilitate inclusion. A guaranteed space payment (two spaces for one child) may be an option for family and group child care homes to support eligible children with additional support needs by covering payment to keep one of the provider's spaces vacant.

Regulations require that each ELCC facility has an inclusion policy, that the daily program is inclusive of children with additional support needs, and that an Individual Program Plan is developed for each child with additional support needs and is reviewed at least annually. All staff must be aware of the centre's inclusion policy and a child's Individual Program Plan.

## ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

### FIRST NATIONS

Manitoba does not currently license, monitor or fund child care facilities on-reserve as they are under the jurisdiction of the First Nation and the federal government. The Department supports on-reserve facilities by providing information, expertise, and consultation.

Currently, two child care centres located on First Nations are licensed. Both were located off-reserve when initially licensed by the province. On-reserve child care spaces are not included in the total count of spaces (see Space Statistics section). Data about the number of spaces or centres on-reserve is unavailable.

Post-secondary colleges in Manitoba routinely contract with First Nations communities to offer an Early Childhood Education diploma customized to meet the needs of each community.

### ABORIGINAL HEAD START

There are 65 Aboriginal Head Start Programs in Manitoba—20 off-reserve programs: five in Winnipeg, 15 outside of Winnipeg; and 45 on-reserve programs throughout Manitoba. They are not required to be licensed but may choose to be so.

## SPACE STATISTICS (2014)

### Number of regulated child care spaces

<i>Centre-based</i>			
Age group	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Infants (0-2 years)	2,164	0	2,164
Preschool (2-6 years)	13,893	3,789	17,682
School age	-	9,632	9,632
Occasional child care	-	24	24
<b>Total centre-based spaces</b>	<b>16,057</b>	<b>13,445</b>	<b>29,502</b>
<i>Family child care spaces</i>			3,053
<b>Total number of regulated spaces</b>			<b>32,555</b>

### Children with special needs in regulated child care 1,478

*Note: This figure represents only those children served under the Inclusion Support Program.*

### Children receiving fee subsidies 8,614

*Note: This figure represents the average number of children receiving subsidized child care per four week period.*

### Number of regulated child care programs

<i>Centre-based</i>	
Full-day	328
Part-day nursery schools	144
Stand-alone school-age programs	193
Occasional centre	1
<b>Total centre-based programs</b>	<b>666</b>
<b>Family and group child care home providers</b>	<b>426</b>

### Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces

Non-profit	27,898
For-profit	1,604

### Parent fees

Maximum daily fees are regulated by the provincial government as part of unit funding. Maximum daily fees per child vary by age of child and type of care. Provincially-mandated maximum fees only apply to funded child care services and when child care is provided by a commercial centre to a subsidized family. There are a few regulated centres that do not receive government funding. These are permitted to set their own rates.

### Maximum daily child care fees by care type and age group

Age Group	Max daily fee in centres and trained family child care providers (\$)	Max daily fee in family child care (\$)
Infants	30.00	22.20
Preschool	20.80	18.20
School-age (full day)	20.80	18.20
School-age (before/lunch/after)	10.30	10.30

Based on information from the provincial government, in 2012, the median monthly fees in centres were:

Age group	Median monthly fee
Infant	\$631
Toddler	431
Preschool	431

In 2014, a national survey of child care fees in Canada's large cities included Winnipeg:

	Median monthly preschooler fee
Winnipeg	\$451

*Note: See Table 3 in this document for age breakdowns.*

## STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

### REGULATED CENTRES

<b>Maximum centre size:</b>	not specified		
<b>Maximum room size:</b>	two groups of children		
<b>Maximum staff/child ratios and group sizes</b>			
<i>Child care centre: Mixed age groups</i>			
Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes	
12 wks- 2 years	1:4	8	
2 yrs- 6 yrs	1:8	16	
6 yrs- 12 yrs	1:15	30	
<i>Child care centre: Separate age groups</i>			
Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes	
2 wks- 1 yr	1:3	6	
1 yr- 2 yrs	1:4	8	
2 yrs- 3yrs	1:6	12	
3 yrs- 4 yrs	1:8	16	
4 yrs- 5 yrs	1:9	18	
5 yrs- 6 yrs	1:10	20	
6 yrs- 12 yrs	1:15	30	
<i>Nursery school</i>			
Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes	
12 wks- 2 yrs	1:4	8	
2 yrs- 6 yrs	1:10	20	

#### Centre staff qualification requirements

Manitoba has three qualification levels:

*Early Childhood Educator (ECE) III:* An approved degree program from a recognized university or an approved ECE II program plus a recognized certificate program.

*Early Childhood Educator (ECE) II:* An approved diploma in early childhood education from a recognized community college or satisfactory completion of one of Manitoba Early Learning and Child Care's Competency-Based Assessment (CBA) programs.

*Child Care Assistant (CCA):* Employed in a child care centre but not eligible on the basis of educational requirements for classification at the ECE II or III level.

Two-thirds of a full-time centre's staff for 0-6 year olds must be classified as ECE II or III and half of staff employed in school-age centres and nursery schools must be classified as ECE II or III.

A director in a full-time preschool centre must be classified as an ECE III (degree) and have one year of experience in working with children in child care or in a related field. A director in a school-age centre or nursery school must be classified as an ECE II and have one year of experience in child care or in a related setting.

All staff must be 18 years of age and have completed a first-aid course that includes CPR training relevant to the age group. All staff must give permission to release information from the Department to a prospective employer about any criminal record or child abuse registry record. All staff must also have 40 hours of approved training within their first year of employment.

#### Qualification equivalency and exemptions

Early childhood educators with out-of-country credentials are assessed on a case-by-case basis. An applicant must complete the application process for determination of classification. A step-by-step application process is available online at: [http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/childcare/ece/become\\_classified.html](http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/childcare/ece/become_classified.html).

The Department will recognize applicants with Manitoba equivalent of Grade 12 or Senior 4 plus two years of post-secondary Early Childhood Education from an accredited Canadian post-secondary institution for early childhood educators with out-of province credentials.

A regulated centre can request an exemption to trained staff requirements if a staff person is in training to upgrade her or his classification level. A staffing plan to meet the regulation must be in place. No education credentials are waived.

### REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

#### Model of organization

Individually licensed

#### Maximum capacity

*Family child care homes* (one licensee): Eight children under 12 years (including the provider's own children under 12 years). No more than five children may be under six years, of whom no more than three children may be under two years.

*Group child care homes* (two to four licensees): Twelve children under 12 years (including the provider's own children under 12 years). No more than three children may be under two years.

### Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

When an individual applies for a license, provincial child care coordinators complete safety inspection reports of the applicant's home. Three drop-in visits per year and one re-licensing visit per year are conducted.

### Family child care provider qualification requirements

Family child care providers are required to complete an approved 40-hour course at a community college in family child care or early childhood education within their first year of operating.

If a provider is classified as an ECE II or III that provider may charge a higher maximum daily fee, equivalent to the fees charged in child care centres.

Providers must be at least 18 years of age and have a valid first-aid certificate that includes CPR training relevant to the age group being cared for. Providers are assessed for their suitability to provide care, based on recognized family child care competencies.

Providers must give permission to release information about any criminal record or child abuse registry record or prior contact with a Child and Family Services Agency.

*Note: Please see the qualification table under Centre Staff Qualifications for more information on provider classifications.*

## FUNDING

### CHILD CARE SERVICES ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

Base and capital funding are available to regulated child care centres, family child care homes, group child care homes and nursery schools.

Only non-profit child care services are eligible for base (unit) or capital funding. Both non-profit and for-profit centres may enrol children receiving subsidies. Existing for-profits may receive some other limited funding.

### TYPES OF FUNDING

#### Fee subsidies

Regulated non-profit and for-profit centres and family child care can receive subsidized children. Non-profit centres receiving provincial operating grants are required to enrol subsidized children. Parents who apply for nursery school subsidy only need to take the income test – they do not need to be working or going to school to be eligible.

The provincial government sets maximum parent fees for all children in funded programs as well as for any subsidized parent in a commercial centre. Centres and family child care homes may surcharge subsidized parents at the capped maximum of \$2/day.

### One time funding

#### Grants for child care centres

Start-up grant of \$450 provided once only per space. This funding is dependent on the type of space and duration.

#### Grants for family child care homes and group child care homes

Start-up grant of \$300 provided once only per space. This funding is dependent on the type of space and duration.

#### Training grants for child care assistants and ECE IIs

The amount of a training grant payable is the cost of the course or courses up to a maximum of \$350 annually for each Child Care Assistant or Early Childhood Educator II.

#### Recruitment incentive grant

This grant is for trained ECE IIs or ECE IIIs who have left the field. A recruitment incentive grant up to a maximum of \$3,000 may be paid in accordance with guidelines established by the Director, to a licensed child care centre on behalf of a person who commenced employment with the recruiting centre as an ECE II or ECE III and meets certain conditions.

#### Staff replacement grant

This grant supports staff who are working towards their ECE diploma in a workplace training program. This grant pays the cost of a substitute to replace the CCA or licensed family child care provider while attending training two days a week.

#### Capital Funding

##### Early Learning and Child Care Capital Fund/Family Choices Building Fund

- funding to offset costs of construction of new or expansion of existing non-profit child care centres to create additional spaces;
- provides one-third of total project costs up to \$400,000 for centres not in schools;
- a separate funding stream provides 100% of costs for centres located in schools or on school property, co-managed with Manitoba Education.



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### Recurring funding

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#### *Grant for child care centres*

This is an annual operating grant (as of July 1, 2013) that is given per approved space. This funding is dependent on the type of space and duration.

Full-time infant child care centre	\$10,595
Full-time preschool child care centre	3,791
Nursery school 1 to 5 sessions per week	240*
Nursery school 6 to 10 sessions per week	480*
School-age child care centre	1,479

*Note: Amount received if not receiving an enhanced operating grant.*

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#### *Grant for family child care homes and group child care homes*

This is an annual operating grant (as of July 1, 2013) that is given per approved space. This funding is dependent on the type of space.

#### *Family or group child care home*

Infant	Preschool	School-age
\$1,766	\$1,161	\$702

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#### *Maximum enhanced operating grants for nursery schools*

The enhanced nursery school grant supports programming in licensed nursery schools and enables more low- and middle-income families to have access to this important social and educational resource for their two, three- and four-year old children. In order to receive enhanced operating grants, nursery schools have to meet certain eligibility criteria, including charging a per-session fee of no more than \$5.00.

<i>Basis of payment</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Annual, per approved space for a preschool-aged child other than an infant	\$3,791
	if nursery school operates 52 weeks per year and 10 sessions per week.
	Otherwise grant may be prorated.

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#### *Grants for extended operating hours*

Licensed facilities that regularly provide child care services that exceed the normal operating hours of a child care facility may receive grants for extended operating hours up to one and one-half times the facility's licensed number of child spaces.

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### PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE

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<b>Fee subsidies</b>	\$29,908,000
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#### **One time funding**

Capital grants	\$2,831,000
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#### **Recurring funding**

Operating grants	\$98,140,000
Special needs grants	12,509,000

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<b>Total regulated child care</b>	\$143,388,000
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*Note: Capital grants refers to the Family Choices Building Fund, see above explanation.*

*Note: Operating grants include all training, recruitment and retention grants, and pension and retirement supports.*

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# Saskatchewan

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## OVERVIEW

Kindergarten support, prekindergarten (pre-k) and regulated child care are all the responsibility of the Early Years Branch within the Ministry of Education. Authority for kindergarten lies with the Student Achievement and Supports Branch in the Ministry of Education while being supported by the Early Years Branch.

Kindergarten and pre-k are half-time programs. Children aged five and six years old attend kindergarten while children age three and four years old may attend pre-k. Pre-k is a targeted program offering educational opportunities for vulnerable children and families. Both programs are funded by the Ministry of Education and are at no cost (free) to families.

Regulated child care is termed licensed child care. In Saskatchewan, part-day preschool (nursery school) programs are exempt from licensing and are not funded. Regulated family child care homes use an individual licensing approach.

Historically, regulated child care centres have been almost entirely non-profit (there are currently three for-profits). For-profit services receive no public funding at all including fee subsidies. There are several municipally-delivered centres in small rural communities.

## PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

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### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	11,900
1	12,100
2	12,300
3	13,100
4	13,700
5	14,300
6	14,200
7	12,500
8	12,700
9	11,700
10	12,400
11	11,100
12	11,800
Total	163,700

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### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	36,300
3-5	41,100
6-12	86,400
Total	163,700

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### Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	7,600
1	7,900
2	7,400
3	8,600
4	9,000
5	9,700
6	9,500
7	8,900
8	9,300
9	8,600
10	8,700
11	8,000
12	8,400
Total	111,700

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**Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age	Number of children
0-2	22,900
3-5	27,300
6-12	61,400
Total	111,700

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**Children 0-14 years identifying with an Aboriginal group (2011)**

Age	First Nations	Metis	Inuit	Multiple	Other	Total
0-4	14,705	5,040	10	150	105	20,015
5-9	12,430	4,340	15	60	60	16,990
10-14	12,140	4,450	30	75	80	16,770
Total	39,280	13,830	145	285	245	53,780

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**Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age of youngest child	Number of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-2	23,200	70.9
3-5	18,600	75.6
6-15	42,500	83.9

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**FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE****Maternity leave**

Eighteen weeks.

**Parental leave**

Birth mothers may take 34 weeks immediately following maternity leave. The other parent may also take up to 37 weeks. These parental leaves may be taken consecutively.

*Note: Paid maternity and parental leave provisions are divided between federal and provincial/territorial governments. All leave provisions are set under employment standards legislation by provinces/territories. The federal government benefit for these leaves pays for up to 15 weeks of maternity leave and 35 weeks of parental leave/ adoptive leave (either parent) for new parents eligible under Employment Insurance rules. In all jurisdictions except Quebec (which has its own approach), the benefit is paid at a rate of 55% of earned income to a maximum of \$524/week (2015).*

## KINDERGARTEN

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Ministry of Education  
Student Achievement and Supports Branch  
2220 College Avenue  
Regina, SK, S4P 3V7  
Telephone: (306) 933-5436  
Website: [www.education.gov.sk.ca](http://www.education.gov.sk.ca)

### LEGISLATION

Saskatchewan. Legislative Assembly. *The Education Act*. 1995. E-02. Amended 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002.

The Independent Schools Regulations set out the criteria with which independent schools are required to comply. Under *The Education Act*, 1995, independent schools must be registered with the Ministry of Education in order to operate legally.

### KINDERGARTEN SERVICES

Kindergarten is delivered in public schools under school boards and independent schools (as defined in *The Education Act*, 1995).

### AGE ELIGIBILITY

*The Education Act*, 1995, gives school divisions the authority to set the age of entry into kindergarten programs (for Grade 1, a child must be six years old by December 31). In most school divisions, children must be five years old by December 31 of the year in which they begin kindergarten.

### COMPULSORY

Kindergarten is not compulsory (although more than 90% attend) nor is it an entitlement. Provision is determined by school divisions; all 28 school divisions provide kindergarten.

### HOURS

As defined in *The Education Act*, 1995, a kindergarten program requirement is not less than one-half the length of the school year. Thus, 475 hours are required for kindergarten and 950 hours are the requirement for Grades 1 to 12.

School divisions have legislative authority to administer and finance kindergarten in a matter that benefits both the needs of children and the school division. Many rural schools offer kindergarten full days every other day with urban schools offering half-day every day. School divisions are given funding for half-time provision.

### CLASS SIZE

There is no provincial class size limit in kindergarten.

### TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

For a teaching certificate, the following requirements must be met: Saskatchewan Grade 12 or equivalent; an approved university degree or equivalent; four years of post-secondary education; completion of an approved teacher education program. English or French proficiency is also required.

There are no ECE requirements for kindergarten teachers or for ongoing education or professional development.

### CURRICULUM

[Saskatchewan Kindergarten Curriculum](#)  
[Children First: A Resource for Kindergarten](#)

### SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN

The Ministry of Education has introduced a new funding formula to allocate operating grants to school divisions. The new formula no longer relies upon a base per student rate. Rather, enrolments are used throughout multiple formulas for instruction, administration, etc.

K-12 per pupil spending	\$12,948
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## PREKINDERGARTEN

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR PREKINDERGARTEN

Ministry of Education  
Early Years Branch  
2220 College Avenue  
Regina, SK, S4P 4V9  
Telephone: (306) 787-3858  
Website: [www.education.gov.sk.ca/ELCC](http://www.education.gov.sk.ca/ELCC)

### PREKINDERGARTEN SERVICES

Prekindergarten is a developmentally appropriate early childhood education program that currently targets vulnerable three- and four-year-old children and their families; it is not a universal program. The program requires a qualified teacher and provides programming for up to 16 children for minimum of 12 hours per week for 10 months of the year.

In 2015-16, there are 316 ministry funded programs across the province. The Ministry provides funding, program guidelines and consultative support. School divisions hire staff and operate the program. Most pre-kindergarten programs are operated in schools although school divisions have the option of partnering with a community organization to offer programming.

Prekindergarten focuses on fostering social development and self-esteem, nurturing educational growth and school success, promoting language development and engaging families.

Prekindergarten programs offer opportunities for enhanced play and exploration as guided by the Ministry developed and supported documents *Play and Exploration: Early Learning Program Guide and Essential Learning Experiences*.

### ELIGIBILITY

Prekindergarten is offered in targeted communities/ neighbourhoods for three- and four- year old children who meet specified eligibility criteria (i.e. family and environmental risk, existing delays, behavioural challenges, isolation, low socio-economic status).

### HOURS

Prekindergarten is offered for a minimum of 12 hours per week, usually three hours/day for four days a week.

### PREKINDERGARTEN SPENDING

In 2015-16, the total allocation for prekindergarten was \$26 million.

## REGULATED CHILD CARE

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Ministry of Education  
Early Years Branch  
2220 College Avenue  
Regina, SK, S4P 4V9  
Telephone: (306) 787-3858  
Website: [www.education.gov.sk.ca/ELCC](http://www.education.gov.sk.ca/ELCC)

### LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

Saskatchewan. Legislative Assembly. *The Child Care Act*. Bill 8, 1990 as amended by the Statutes of Saskatchewan, 2000.

Saskatchewan. Legislative Assembly. *The Child Care Regulations*. 2001.

### CHILD CARE SERVICES

#### UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

##### Unregulated family child care

Care provided to no more than eight children including the caregiver's own children under 13 years. Of the eight, five may be younger than six years; of these five, two may be younger than 30 months.

##### Nursery schools

Part-time preschools operating less than three hours/day.

##### School-aged

Programs located in schools and solely for school-aged children.

### **Child care services on-reserve**

Services provided on a reserve as defined in *The Indian Act* (Canada).

## **REGULATED CHILD CARE**

### **Child care centres**

Services that provide care to children in group settings. Centres must have a license from the Early Years Branch and may care for up to 90 children from six weeks to and including 12 years. Child care centres can include non-profit services governed by parent boards of directors, and for-profit services that have parent advisory committees.

### **Teen student support centres**

Teen student support centres are located in or near a high school and provide child care services to children of parents attending the high school.

### **School-age child care**

Care outside school hours for children under 13 in a mixed-age centre, family child care home or in a program solely for school-age children that is not located in a school.

### **Family child care homes**

Operated by individually licensed family child care providers in a residence. They may care for up to eight children depending on the children's ages.

### **Group family child care homes**

Operated by individuals in a residence and licensed for up to 12 children. The caregiver must have an assistant adult caregiver in attendance when the numbers or ages of children permitted in a family child care home are exceeded.

### **Teen student support family child care homes**

Teen student support homes are family child care homes formally associated with a high school, and provide child care services to children of parents attending the high school. Teen student support family child care homes are licensed to care for up to six children, depending on their ages.

## **CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK**

[Play and Exploration: Early learning Program Guide](#)  
[Jouer et explorer, Guide du programme d'apprentissage, Pour la petite enfance](#)  
[Play and Exploration for Infants and Toddlers](#)

## **CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

The Child Care Inclusion Program provides various grants to child care facilities to include children with diverse or exceptionally high diverse needs. Up to 15% of a centre's spaces may receive inclusion grants (up to 25% with special approval).

Individual inclusion grants are available to licensed centres and family child care homes to include children with cognitive, physical, social, emotional, behavioral or language needs that require additional support. Grants may vary from \$200 to \$300/month depending on the need within three defined levels.

Enhanced accessibility grants of up to \$2,000 per month may be provided to assist with additional costs of including a child with exceptionally high diverse needs. The child must have a referral (not necessarily a diagnosis) and must require significant additional support. The parents must be enrolled in an education program or employed. The grant may be provided in the case of employed parent/guardian(s) during maternity/paternity leave. Parents of children with diverse needs pay for the space but not for the additional supports.

Facilities may receive a training and resource grant of \$100 per child with diverse needs per year, as well as a grant of up to \$600 (\$1,200 for exceptional needs) for adapted equipment required to meet the child's needs.

## **ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE**

Saskatchewan does not regulate or fund on-reserve child care programs. Since 2001, at the request of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, monitoring of child care on-reserve has been the responsibility of First Nations.

The federally funded First Nations and Inuit Child Care Initiative has resulted in the development of approximately 70 on-reserve child care facilities with 840 spaces monitored by First Nations.



## SPACE STATISTICS (2014)

<b>Number of regulated child care spaces</b>			
<i>Centre-based</i>			
Age Group	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Infants (6 weeks-17 months)	1,083	-	1,083
Toddlers (18-29 months)	2,704	-	2,704
Preschool (30 months-kindergarten)	6,006	-	6,006
School-age (grade 1-13 years)	1,411	-	1,411
<b>Total centre-based spaces</b>	11,204	-	11,204
<i>Family child care spaces</i>			
Number of children enrolled in family child care homes			953
Number of children enrolled in group family child care homes			1,157
<b>Total family child care spaces</b>			2,110
<b>Total number of regulated child care spaces</b>			13,314
<i>Note: Saskatchewan does not license part-day preschools. The number of hours services may be provided is restricted by the legislation.</i>			
<i>Note: As of March 2014 an additional 711 child care centre spaces were in various stages of development; totalling 14,025 spaces operational /in development.</i>			
<b>Children with special needs in regulated care</b>			388
<b>Children receiving fee subsidies</b>			3,250
<b>Number of regulated child care programs</b>			
Centre-based			282
School-based child care centres for preschool-age children (included in centre-based)			115
<b>Total number of family child care providers</b>			243
<b>Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces</b>			
Non-profit			10,985
Municipally operated			141
For-profit			78

### Parent fees

There is no set parent fee.

In 2012, a national survey of child care centres and staff found median monthly fees of:

Age group	Median monthly fee
Infant	\$650/month
Toddler	561/month
Preschool	535/month

In 2014, a national survey of child care fees in Canada's large cities included Saskatoon:

	Median monthly preschooler fee
Saskatoon	\$645

## STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

### REGULATED CENTRES

**Maximum centre size:** 90 spaces  
(maximum of 12 infant spaces)

**Maximum room size:** not specified

### Maximum staff/child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes
Infants (under 18 months)	1:3	6
Toddlers (19 to 29 months)	1:5	10
Preschool (30 months – 6 years)	1:10	20
School-age (Grade 1 – 12 years)	1:15	30

### Centre staff qualification requirements

Saskatchewan has three levels of certification:

- **ECE Level I:** Completion of an ECE orientation from an approved accredited post-secondary institution, or completion of nine credit units (three courses) that are directly related to early childhood – one course from each of three areas: Child Development, Programming, and Relationships.
- **ECE Level II:** Completion of a one year ECE certificate from an approved, accredited post-secondary institution or an equivalent combination of post-secondary coursework.
- **ECE Level III:** Completion of a two year ECE diploma from an approved, accredited post-secondary institution or an equivalent combination of post-secondary coursework.

Only courses completed through an approved, accredited post-secondary institution are considered for ECE certification.

Centre directors hired after July 2001 must have at least a two year diploma or equivalent and be certified as an ECE III. Directors appointed to a centre director position prior to July 2001 must meet or exceed the qualifications of an ECE II (one year ECE certificate or equivalent) but must upgrade to a two year diploma if they accept employment with another centre.

All staff employed in a centre for 65 hours or more per month have to meet the qualifications of an ECE I.

- 30% of staff are required to have a one year ECE certificate or equivalent (ECE II).
- 20% of staff are required to have a two year ECE diploma or equivalent (ECE III).
- All staff members in each centre must have completed a first aid and CPR course.

Individuals must apply to Educator Services, Ministry of Education for certification. The requirements for certification and the courses required to achieve equivalency status are set out by the Ministry of Education.

ECE certification from another *Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT)* province or territory is automatically recognized. Individuals must submit an application for certification and a photocopy of the certificate and a letter of authentication from the certifying agency.

If a licensee is unable to hire a centre director, supervisor, or child care worker whose qualifications meet the requirements of *The Child Care Regulations, 2001*, the licensee may apply to Educator Services for an exemption from those requirements. An education plan must also be submitted, indicating how the licensee intends to meet the requirement of the regulations through further education of the individual to be hired.

## REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

### **Model of organization**

Individually licensed

### **Maximum capacity**

Family child care homes: Up to eight children (including the provider's own children under 13 years) between six weeks and 12 years. Of the eight children, only five may be younger than six years; of these five, only two may be younger than 30 months.

Group family child care homes: Up to 12 children (including the provider's and assistant's own children under 13 years). Of the 12 children, only 10 may be younger than six years, of these 10, only five may be younger than 30 months and only three younger than 18 months.

Teen student support family child care homes: Up to six children (including the provider's own children under 13 years). Of these six children, no more than four may be younger than six years; of these four, only two may be younger than 30 months

### **Licensing, monitoring and enforcement**

Program consultants conduct annual visits to renew licenses in addition to a minimum of two drop-in visits throughout the year.

### **Family child care provider qualification requirements**

Must be 18 years old. All providers require an orientation session with a program consultant and first-aid/CPR training, plus six hours of professional development workshops each licensing year. Must submit the results of a criminal records search with respect to the applicant and each adult who resides in the premises in which the home will be operated.

Providers in regular family child care homes must complete a 40 hour introductory early childhood education course within the first year of licensing.

Providers in group family child care homes have three years to complete the 120-hour orientation course (ECE I). Assistants require first-aid and CPR training plus six hours of professional development each licensing year.

## FUNDING

### CHILD CARE SERVICES ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

Funding is available to regulated child care, which includes child care centres, teen student support centres, school age child care, family child care homes, group family child care homes, and teen student support family child care homes.

Only non-profit and municipal child care services receive public funding, including base, capital and subsidy funding.

## TYPES OF FUNDING

### Fee subsidies

#### *Child care subsidy program*

Subsidies are available in regulated non-profit child care centres and licensed family child care homes. They are paid directly to service providers. Parents must secure a child care space before applying for a subsidy.

Child care subsidies are available to all families that meet the income and social requirements. Subsidy rates vary by age of the child, the type of care and by region.

Subsidy rates do not cover full fees; a family eligible for subsidy is required to pay a minimum fee of 10% of the actual cost of care. Centres and regulated family child care homes may also surcharge subsidized parents above the minimum fee. The average surcharge fee for subsidized parents has been estimated to range from 30% to 40%. The child care subsidy program pays for the parent portion of fees for parents who are on social assistance.

### One time funding

#### *Tuition reimbursement grant*

Grant to a licensee of a facility for reimbursement of tuition fees paid and required books purchased for ECE courses completed by licensee or staff to meet requirements or for upgrading ECE qualification. Maximum grant per individual course taken by the person is \$500 (in the case of courses leading to qualification as an Early Childhood Educator I level or above and the maximum grant for the Early Childhood Educator orientation course is \$1,500)

### Space development funding

#### *Start up grants*

One time grant for the purpose of developing child care spaces in centres.

- Maximum grant is \$615 per child care space

Grant for a family child care home or a teen student support family child care home located within or outside the Northern Saskatchewan Administration District.

- Maximum grant within district \$2,250
- Maximum grant outside district \$1,800

Grant for group family child care home located within or outside the Northern Saskatchewan Administration District.

- Maximum grant within district \$2,500
- Maximum grant outside \$2,000

Grant for licensees that change from a family child care home to a group family child care home.

- Maximum per licensee \$400

### Space development capital grant

One-time grant to a developmental licensee or a licensee of a non-profit centre to assist with costs of developing, renovating or constructing new child care spaces in a centre.

- \$3,360 per new child care space approved by the minister for development.

### Fire, health and safety grant

One-time grant to a provisional licensee with respect to costs associated with meeting necessary fire, health and safety requirements.

- Maximum grant is \$1,200 for a new family child care home.

### Enriched learning environment grant

One-time grant to the licensee of a facility to support the design implementation of an enriched learning environment.

- \$246 per licensed child care space in a non-profit centre.
- \$1,025 per family child care home, group family child care home or teen student support family child care home.

### Recurring funding

#### Early childhood services grants

*For centres: Grants to support on-going operating and staffing costs to provide child care services.*

Maximum grant for licensee of extended hours centre that operates less than 120 hours per week

<i>Age group</i>	<i>Amount per month, per space</i>
infant	\$975
toddler	585
preschool	292
school-age	195

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Maximum grant for licensee of extended hours centre that operates 120 hours per week or more

<i>Age group</i>	<i>Amount per month, per space</i>
infant	\$812.50
toddler	487.50
preschool	243.75
school-age	162.50

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Maximum grant for licensee of full-time centres or student support centres

<i>Age group</i>	<i>Amount per month, per space</i>
infant	\$650
toddler	390
preschool	195
school-age	130

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### **Inclusion grants**

*For centres: Grants to support children with diverse needs*

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#### *Individual inclusion grants*

- Maximum grant per month to assist with additional costs of supervising the child, for a period not exceeding one year is \$300
  - Maximum grant per year for the purchase of adapted equipment required to meet the needs of the child is \$600 (\$1,200 per year if the Director approves the exceptional circumstances)
  - Maximum grant to assist with the cost of training employees and the provision of resources other than those listed above is \$100
- 

#### *Enhanced accessibility grants*

- Maximum grant per month to assist with additional costs of supervising the child, for a period not exceeding one year is \$2,000
  - Maximum grant per year for the purchase of adaptive equipment required to meet the needs of the child is \$600 (\$1,200 per year if the Director approves the exceptional circumstances).
  - Maximum grant to support training of employees and the provision of resources other than those above is \$200
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*Support service grants for on-going costs associated with centres providing parenting programs*

- Maximum grant for centres is \$810 per month per infant child care space and \$680 per month per toddler child care space
  - Maximum grant for homes is \$350 per month per teen student support child care space
- 

#### *Nutrition grant for family child care homes*

Grant to licensee with respect to the provision of nutritious meals and snacks

- Maximum grant per month per licensed child care space in a home located within the Northern Saskatchewan Administration District is \$50 and outside the Northern Saskatchewan Administration District is \$40
- 

#### *Northern transportation grants for centres*

Grant for licensee of a centre located within the Northern Saskatchewan Administration District for transportation of children attending the centre

- Maximum grant is \$20 per month per child provided with transportation to the centre Northern equipment grants
- 

#### *Equipment and program grants for centres*

Grant for licensee located within the Northern Saskatchewan Administration District for replacement of equipment and supplies

- Maximum grant is \$100 per year per licensed child care space
- 

#### *For family child care homes*

Grant to a licensee of a child care home for developmentally appropriate programming, equipment and supplies

- Maximum grant is \$100 per year per licensed child care space
-

PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED  
CHILD CARE

<b>Fee subsidies</b>	\$15,435,215
<b>One time funding</b>	
Development funding (Start-up grants, Space development capital grants, Fire health and safety grants)	\$1,732,457
Capital (school-based)	3,857,404
Enriched Learning Environment Grants	108,103
Equipment – family child care homes	176,384
<b>Recurring funding</b>	
Early Childhood Services Grants	\$35,352,930
Teen Student Child Care Centre Support	2,940,690
Nutrition - family child care homes	957,724
Inclusion grants	4,276,371
<i>Total recurring funding</i>	\$43,527,715
<b>Total regulated child care</b>	\$64,837,278
<b>Other funding</b>	\$1,011,099
<b>Early Childhood Training</b>	\$960,027

*Note: Inclusion grants include Individual Inclusion, Centre Inclusion, Enhanced Accessibility and Adaptive Equipment Grants.*

*Note: Other funding includes Targeted Initiatives, Preschool Support, Home Alternates Program, Early Childhood Initiatives, Northern Equipment/Transportation, ELPG Grant.*

*Note: Early childhood training includes funds paid to licensed child care programs for tuition reimbursement, professional development, and northern training.*





## OVERVIEW

In Alberta, responsibility for early childhood education and care (ECEC) falls under two Ministries. Responsibility for Early Childhood Services (ECS) including kindergarten is under the Early Learning Branch of Alberta Education.

Alberta Human Services is responsible for licensed and approved ECEC. Regional Child and Family Services at the local level are responsible for licensing, monitoring and issuing enforcement actions for licensed child care programs.

Licensed ECEC includes day care programs for preschool-aged children (under seven), part-day preschool programs, and out-of-school programs for kindergarten and school-aged children.

Approved family day homes are another child care option available to parents in Alberta. Family child care in Alberta is delivered through a contracted agency model and referred to as approved family day homes. Licensed group family child care, which allows for more children provided a second provider is on the premises, is also available.

Regional Child and Family Services contract with agencies for the purpose of ensuring that children using an approved family day home service are healthy and safe. Contracted family day home (FDH) agencies and approved providers are required to operate according to Ministry standards. Under the legal authority of the *Child Care Licensing Act*, FDH standards describe roles, objectives, responsibilities and expectations for the Child and Family Services Region, FDH Agency and family day home provider.

Approximately half of Alberta's regulated (licensed and approved) programs are for-profit. The other half are non-profit, which includes a small number of municipally operated or supported programs.

## PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

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### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	50,600
1	45,600
2	49,500
3	52,900
4	51,800
5	57,900
6	52,800
7	45,300
8	49,000
9	47,200
10	45,600
11	43,400
12	45,900
Total	637,400

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### Number of children 0-12 years (aggregated) (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	145,700
3-5	162,600
6-12	329,200
Total	637,400

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### Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	26,000
1	24,800
2	25,500
3	29,800
4	30,400
5	34,100
6	30,500
7	26,600
8	28,300
9	31,200
10	27,900
11	28,300
12	31,500
Total	374,800

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**Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (aggregated) (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age	Number of children
0-2	76,300
3-5	94,300
6-12	204,300
Total	374,800

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**Children 0-14 years identifying with an Aboriginal group (2011)**

Age	First Nations	Metis	Inuit	Multiple	Other	Total
0-4	14,525	8,410	190	235	305	23,655
5-9	12,655	7,805	155	230	305	21,155
10-14	12,175	8,935	160	175	315	21,760
Total	39,350	25,155	495	635	925	66,570

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**Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age of youngest child	Number of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-2	78,600	60.3
3-5	66,700	71.8
6-15	160,400	78.8

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**FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE****Maternity leave**

Fifteen weeks.

**Parental leave**

Thirty-seven weeks may be taken by one parent or shared between two parents but the total combined leave cannot exceed 37 weeks. The legislation stipulates that there is no requirement to grant parental leave to more than one parent at a time if both parents of a child work for the same employer.

**Adoption leave**

Thirty-seven weeks may be taken by one parent or shared between two parents but the total combined leave cannot exceed 37 weeks.

*Note: Paid maternity and parental leave provisions are divided between federal and provincial/territorial governments. All leave provisions are set under employment standards legislation by provinces/territories. The federal government benefit for these leaves pays for up to 15 weeks of maternity leave and 35 weeks of parental leave/adoptive leave (either parent) for new parents eligible under Employment Insurance rules. In all jurisdictions except Quebec (which has its own approach), the benefit is paid at a rate of 55% of earned income to a maximum of \$524/week (2015).*

## KINDERGARTEN

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Alberta Education  
Education Supports Sector  
8th Floor – 44 Capital Boulevard  
10044-108 Street  
Edmonton, AB, T5J 5E6  
Telephone: (780) 427-4919  
Website: [www.education.gov.ab.ca](http://www.education.gov.ab.ca)

### LEGISLATION

Government of Alberta. Legislative Assembly.  
*School Act*. 2000.  
*Early Childhood Services Regulation* 31/2002.  
*Private Schools Regulation* 190/2000.

### KINDERGARTEN SERVICES

In Alberta, the Ministry of Education is responsible for providing Early Childhood Services (ECS) under the *School Act*. These services are provided in a variety of early learning settings including kindergarten. They may sometimes include children with special needs starting as early as two and a half years of age.

Kindergarten refers specifically to the educational program for children the year prior to Grade one. It is not compulsory and is usually part-day (for a minimum of 475 hours/year).

Funding for ECS programs including kindergarten may be accessed by public, Catholic, charter and private schools, or approved private, non-profit ECS operators.

### AGE ELIGIBILITY

Four years and six months of age on September 1.

### COMPULSORY

Attendance is not compulsory but most five year olds attend (approximately 97% of eligible children).

### HOURS

475 hours throughout the school year, usually part-day, daily.

### CLASS SIZE

There is no kindergarten class size limit.

Alberta Education has begun providing funding to school jurisdictions to support the implementation of an initiative to support smaller class sizes in Grades K-3. In addition, the department has established class size guidelines and a requirement for school jurisdictions to report their class sizes in their annual results report.

### TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Qualification requirements: Early Childhood Services teachers in Alberta must hold a valid Alberta teaching certificate based on a four year university degree including a basic teacher preparation program (B.Ed.), or a bachelor's degree supplemented with a teacher preparation program (two years post-degree for teacher course work and practicum.)

There is no specific requirement for early childhood training.

### CURRICULUM

[Alberta Kindergarten Curriculum](#)

### SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN

#### Provincial estimate

Approximately \$300 million annually for roughly 60,000 children or \$5,000-6,000 per 475 hours of programming per child (without special needs). This does not include a pro-rated amount for capital expenditures as these costs are not annual and so difficult to assign a per child rate.

Funding on a per child basis is provided to all school authorities (including private non-profit operators) that offer ECS programs to deliver the program. Private ECS programs access the same public funding as public ECS programs although private schools for Grades 1–12 access less public funding than public schools.

K-12 per pupil spending \$13,497

## REGULATED CHILD CARE

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Alberta Human Services  
Early Childhood Development Branch  
6th Floor Sterling Place  
9940–106th Street  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2N2  
Telephone: (780) 422-1119  
Website: <http://humanservices.alberta.ca/family-community/child-care.html>

### LEGISLATION

Alberta. Legislative Assembly. *Child Care Licensing Act*.

Alberta. Legislative Assembly. *Child Care Licensing Regulation*, 143/2008.

There are no regulations for approved family day homes. The *Family Day Home Standards Manual* for Alberta provides information on requirements for approved family child care.

### CHILD CARE SERVICES

#### UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

##### Unlicensed family child care

In Alberta, the maximum number of children permitted in an unlicensed family child care setting is six under the age of 13 not including the caregiver's own children.

#### REGULATED CHILD CARE

Under Alberta's *Child Care Licensing Act*, there are six categories of regulated Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) programs:

##### Day care program

A child care program provided to seven or more infants, preschool and kindergarten children for four or more consecutive hours in each day the program is provided.

##### Preschool program

A child care program provided to preschool and kindergarten children for less than four hours per child in each day the program is provided.

##### Innovative program

A child care program approved by the director that is designed to meet the unique child care needs of the community in which it is provided.

##### Out-of-school care program

A child care program provided to kindergarten and school-aged children (under age 13) in any or all of the following periods: before and after school; during the lunch hour; when schools are closed.

##### Group family child care program

A child care program provided in the private residence of the licence holder to a maximum of 10 children, including infants, preschool, kindergarten and school-aged children. Group family child care programs must have two providers on record, and both must be on the premises when seven or more children are in attendance.

##### Approved family day home program (contracted, not licensed)

The *Child Care Licensing Act* allows a director to enter into an agreement to coordinate and monitor the provision of child care in a private residence of one or more child care providers. Section 25 of Alberta's *Child Care Licensing Act* defines the Family Day Home (FDH) Program, delivered under a contract model and referred to as approved family day homes.

### CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

#### [Play, participation and possibilities: An early learning and child care curriculum framework for Alberta](#)

Alberta's curriculum framework supports an evidence-based practice approach with a holistic view of children and will build common language across diverse delivery settings around the importance of play in early learning, emergent program planning and responsive care. It is intended to guide practitioners in their intentional interactions with young children.

### CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Inclusive Child Care Program provides supports for inclusion of children with special needs. Inclusive child care programs create flexibility to meet the individual needs of children with special needs or disabilities within these child care settings. Program delivery and funding

may vary depending on the special needs of the child, the type of service required and the regional Child and Family Services delivery model as regions respond to meet the unique needs of their community.

Funds are paid to licensed or contracted operators on behalf of eligible children. Additional training for staff working with children with special needs is not required in legislation; however, staff members typically have an early childhood education credential.

In 2013/2014, Alberta Human Services funded the Getting Ready for Inclusion (GRIT) demonstration project focused on promoting inclusive child care for children with special needs, ensuring child care practitioners have the skills, knowledge and confidence needed to ensure equitable access, supports and participation of all children within quality inclusive environments. The GRIT demonstration project resulted in positive outcomes for children with special needs including continued participation in the child care program and less intensive interventions for the child.

Under Alberta's Ministry of Education, school authorities may access funding to provide programming for children with additional learning needs from 2.5 to 5.5 years of age. This programming may be provided and supported in a licensed child care centre or preschool operated under the *Child Care Licensing Act* overseen by Human Services, in addition to school based ECS programs. Child care program operators who are also private Early Childhood Services (ECS) operators may access ECS funding for children with severe or mild/moderate disabilities/delay, and English as a Second Language funding through Alberta Education.

### ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

In Alberta, child care programs on-reserve are not required to meet provincial child care legislation requirements. On-reserve programs are eligible for federal government funding equivalent to fee subsidies when requested. Funding is available upon inspection by the province if documentation shows that provincial licensing requirements are met. This inspection process became effective January 1, 2012. The province will have information only on the on-reserve child care programs that make a request for an inspection.

Alberta has a process for recognizing early learning and child care education training programs in approved private vocational training institutions based on a theoretical understanding of all aspects of child development from both an academic and First Nations/Aboriginal knowledge base. Based on content and course hours, programs may be eligible for certification as a Child Development Worker or a Child Development Supervisor. Alberta also contracts with early childhood educators to deliver the entry level Child Care Orientation Course in First Nation communities leading to certification as a Child Development Assistant.

### SPACE STATISTICS (2014)

<b>Number of regulated child care spaces</b>			
<i>Centre-based</i>			
Age group	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Infants (under 12 months)	1,473	-	1,473
Infants (13-19 months)	3,769	-	3,769
Toddlers (19 months to less than 3 years)	11,141	1,472	12,613
Preschool (3 years to 4.5 years)	13,227	14,986	28,213
Kindergarten (4.5 years and attending an approved ECS program part-time)	6,593	9,448	16,041
Out-of-school (Grades 1 to 6)	25,604	-	25,604
Innovative child care (no age grouping)	529	-	529
<i>Total centre-based spaces</i>	62,336	25,906	88,242
<i>Family child care (Licensed group family group child care and approved family day homes)</i>			11,296
<b>Total number of regulated/approved spaces</b>			<b>99,538</b>
<b>Children with special needs in regulated/approved child care</b>			
Funding is distributed by regional delivery offices to programs. The number of children served is not collected.			
<b>Children receiving fee subsidies</b>			24,987
<b>Children receiving Kin Child Care subsidy funding (not counted in total)</b>			3,049
<i>Note: This is for unregulated private arrangements with family members.</i>			

<b>Number of child care programs</b>	
<i>Centre-based</i>	
Day care centres	705
Innovative	22
Out-of-school care	821
Preschool (part day)	728
<b>Total number of centre-based programs</b>	<b>2,276</b>
<b>Family child care</b>	
Number of family day home agencies (contracted)	76
Number of individual family child care providers (approved agencies)	2,042
Group family child care programs (licensed)	3
<b>Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces</b>	
<i>Regulated centre-based program spaces</i>	
Non-profit and public	41,143
For-profit	47,099
<i>Family day home agencies</i>	
Non-profit	45
For-profit	31
<i>Note: Alberta reports sponsorship by program as it relates to the license holder.</i>	
<b>Parent fees</b>	
In Alberta, child care operators are responsible for setting their own fees based on the overall operating costs for their programs.	
Alberta collects data on average child care fees paid, which varies by program type and age of child. In March 2014, the average monthly fees provided by the provincial government were: licensed day care program \$823; approved family day home \$656; licensed out-of-school care \$436.	
In 2012, a national survey of child care centres and staff found median monthly fees of:	
<i>Age group</i>	<i>Median monthly centre fee</i>
Infant	\$900
Toddler	825
Preschool	790
In 2014, a national survey of child care fees in Canada's large cities included the following Alberta cities:	
<i>City</i>	<i>Median monthly preschooler fee</i>
Calgary	\$924
Edmonton	746
<i>Note: See Table 3 in this document for age breakdowns.</i>	

## STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

### REGULATED CENTRES

**Maximum centre size:** Not specified

#### Maximum staff/child ratios and group sizes

##### *Full day centre-based day care*

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max. group sizes
Infants less than 12 months	1:3	6
Infants 12 months to less than 19 months	1:4	8
19 months to less than 3 years	1:6	12
3 years to less than 4.5 years	1:8	16
4.5 years and older	1:10	20
<i>Out-of-school care program</i>		
Kindergarten age children	1:10	20
Children attending Grade one and higher	1:15	30

#### Centre staff qualification requirements

Alberta has three training qualification levels:

*Child Development Assistant (formerly Level 1) certificate:* Completion of the Child Care Orientation Course (Alberta government sponsored course); OR completion of specific courses in Alberta high schools, OR completed a 45-hour (3 credit) college/university-level course related to child development; OR completed the Step Ahead Family Day Home Training or Family Child Care Training Program through an approved Alberta Family Day Home Agency registered with the Alberta Family Child Care Association.

*Child Development Worker certificate (formerly Level 2):* Completion of one year Early Learning and Child Care certificate program offered by an Alberta public college, or has completed an equivalent level of training. And completed at least one college/university-level English/French course (e.g. communication, composition). Note: ESL courses and English language proficiency exams/assessments are not valid to meet this requirement. OR successfully completed the Life Experience Equivalency Process (LEEP).

*Child Development Supervisor certificate (formerly Level 3):* Completion of two-year early learning and child care diploma program offered by an Alberta public college, OR has completed an equivalent level of training (refer to [www.child.alberta.ca/certification](http://www.child.alberta.ca/certification) for details) AND completed at least one college/university-level English/French course (e.g. communication, composition).

*Note: ESL courses and English language proficiency exams/assessments are not valid to meet this requirement.*

### **Certification**

To be eligible to work in a child care centre in Alberta, all staff must apply for certification to the Child Care Staff Certification Office. The Certification Office is also responsible for contracting the delivery of the Level 1 Orientation Course, by online, distance and classroom delivery at no cost to the participant.

Out-of-province ECE credentials must meet the same requirements for Level One, Two and Three certification.

Educational equivalencies are listed on [www.child.alberta.ca/certification](http://www.child.alberta.ca/certification). Course equivalencies include a total of 1,545 hours of ECE coursework with 800 hours of practicum for certification as a Child Development Supervisor or have completed at least 770 hours of ECE courses including 400 hours of practicum for certification as a Child Development Worker.

### **Staff requirements**

#### *Day care program requirements*

- Program Supervisor must hold a Child Development Supervisor certificate. In the extended absence of the Program Supervisor, a person with certification as at least a Child Development Worker must be designated to assume the responsibilities of the Program Supervisor.
- At least one in every four primary staff working directly with children between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. must hold at least a Child Development Worker certificate.
- All other primary staff working directly with children at any time of day must hold at least a Child Development Assistant certificate. Regulation allows maximum six months for staff to obtain this; until then, the staff person must not have unsupervised access to children.

#### *Out-of-school care program requirements*

- Staff working directly with children at any time must hold at least a Child Development Assistant certificate. Regulation allows maximum six months for staff to obtain this; until then, the staff person must not have unsupervised access to children.

#### *Preschool program requirements*

- Staff working directly with children at any time must hold at least a Child Development Assistant certificate. Regulation allows maximum six months for staff to obtain this; until then, the staff person must not have unsupervised access to children.

## REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

A family day home agency, through an agreement with regional Child and Family Services authorities, coordinates and monitors provision of child care in a number of family day homes (in care providers' private residences) according to the Alberta Family Day Home Standards.

### **Model of organization**

Agency model. Section 25 of Alberta's *Child Care Licensing Act* defines the Family Day Home Program (FDH) as a program under which the person with whom the director has entered into an agreement to coordinate and monitor the provision of child care in a private residence of one or more child care providers, and to not more than six children in each private residence. Child and Family Services Regions in Alberta contract with FDH agencies for the purpose of ensuring that children using the service are healthy and safe.

An agency is defined as an individual, partnership or corporation that contracts with a child and family services region to administer a family day home service. Agencies may be non-profit or for-profit.

### **Maximum capacity**

Providers may accommodate a maximum of six children 0 to 12 years old including the provider's own children. A maximum of three children may be 36 months or younger and a maximum of two children may be 24 months or younger.

Group family child care is provided in the private residence of the licence holder and two providers can care for a maximum of 10 children, both providers must be on premises when more than seven children are present. Of the 10 children, not more than three may be under three years of age, and not more than two may be infants. A licence holder must ensure that where seven or more children are present at a program, whether on or off the program premises, two care providers are on duty.

### **Licensing, monitoring and enforcement**

Agency staff, referred to as home visitors, visit family day homes at least six times per year to ensure operation according to the *Family Day Home Standards Manual for Alberta*. Provincial staff monitor agencies and homes on a regular basis. The minimum Ministry-wide monitoring requirement is once annually.

Through its contract with a Child and Family Services Region, the family day home agency is responsible for complying with the agency standards and monitoring compliance to the provider standards.

Group family child care is a licensed category in Alberta. These homes are individually licensed and subject to provincial licensing and enforcement requirements.

#### **Family day home provider qualification requirements**

Family day home providers must be 18 years of age, have a criminal records check, including a vulnerable sector search, and have completed a first aid course.

The *Family Day Home Manual* requires that direct care providers receive training in such areas as child development, child guidance and employing appropriate culturally sensitive strategies. Family day home agencies are required to develop appropriate training based on the needs of their providers and families.

In the group family child care program, the licence holder must be certified at minimum as a Child Development Assistant and ensure that each additional child care provider is certified at minimum as a Child Development Assistant (see certification table below).

## **FUNDING**

Funding includes parent fee subsidies, infant care incentive funding for child care programs, wage top-up funding, benefit contribution grant to offset the mandatory employer contributions on wage top-ups; professional development grants and a staff attraction incentive allowance available to all licensed services.

### **CHILD CARE SERVICES ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING**

Alberta does not differentiate between non-profit and for-profit child care programs in terms of funding, providing all funding requirements are met.

### **TYPES OF FUNDING**

#### **Fee subsidies**

Child care subsidy funding is available for parents using licensed and approved child care services - non-profit or for-profit licensed day care centres, licensed group family child care, approved family day homes, licensed out-of-school care centres, licensed preschools, and approved early childhood development programs.

Eligibility and amount of subsidy funding depends on the number of individuals in the household, a family's gross income, age of child attending child care and type of care. Subsidies are available to eligible low-income families who meet the required income test and who demonstrate the need for care (i.e., employment and/or schooling). Families must secure a space before applying for a subsidy.

Subsidy rates may not cover full fees; centres and family day home agencies are permitted to surcharge above the subsidy rates.

Alberta's child care subsidy program also includes the following options: *Extended-Hours Subsidy* (eligible parents who work or attend classes during evenings or weekends may access extended hours subsidy of up to an additional \$100 per month per child); *Stay-At-Home Parents Support* (eligible families who have one parent who stays at home or works, volunteers or attends school less than 20 hours per week may qualify for a subsidy of up to \$1,200 per year to help pay fees for each pre-school-aged child to who attends a licensed pre-school or an approved early childhood development program); and *Kin Child Care Funding* (funding for child care by a non-custodial relative of up to \$400 per month available to eligible low- and middle-income families with children under the age of seven and not yet attending grade 1, and up to \$200 for school-age children [Grades 1-6]).

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#### **One time funding**

##### *Professional Development Grant*

Assists with tuition fees and required textbooks for certified staff to obtain higher levels of certification, and with the costs of attending approved conferences or workshops. Certified Child Development Assistants and Child Development Workers in both levels of accreditation are eligible for up to \$1,000/year.

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##### *Child Care Staff Attraction Incentive Allowance*

Intended to reduce labour market pressures in child care by attracting new staff and experienced staff back to the profession. Certified Child Development Workers and Child Development Supervisors in both levels of accreditation are eligible for \$2,500 if they are a new staff and \$5,000 if they are a returning staff.

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## Recurring funding

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### *Infant Care Incentive*

Infant Care Incentive is paid to regulated child care programs: \$150 is paid per month for each child under 19 months of age who uses more than 8 hours of care in that month. Regulated programs were receiving payments for an average of just over 4,100 infants each month in 2013/14.

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### *Accreditation funding for child care programs*

Paid to eligible child care programs which are responsible to transfer funding to the staff in accordance with the Alberta Employment Standards and policies as set out in the Alberta's [Accreditation Funding for Child Care](#).

Types of Accreditation funding include: staff support funding, benefit contribution grant, professional development grant, and the Child Care Staff Attraction Incentive Allowance.

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### *Staff support funding*

Wage top-up funding for certified staff is paid to the child care program on behalf of staff members. Rates vary by type of child care program and level of staff certification. Overviews of funding rates by program are available at the link provided above. Rates for staff working in day care centres are provided below as an example:

Day care staff	Pre-accredited centres	Accredited centres
Child Development Assistant	\$1.44/hr	\$2.14/hr
Child Development Worker	\$2.70/hr	\$4.05/hr
Child Development Supervisor	\$4.42/hr	\$6.62/hr

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### *Benefit Contribution Grant*

Grant for programs to help offset costs of mandatory employer contributions needed to administer Staff Support Funding and the Child Care Staff Attraction Incentive Allowance. Grants support 16% of Staff Support Funding and 16% of Child Care Staff Attraction Incentive Allowance.

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## PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE

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### **One time funding**

Oil Sands Initiative	\$2,016,631
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### **Fee subsidies**

Day care centres	\$88,655,210
Group family day homes	100,785
Family day home	14,690,621
Out-of-school care	22,762,100

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### **Recurring funding**

Accreditation	\$86,429,000
Extended hours	184,980
Specialized child care (includes inclusive child care)	4,503,217
Family day home agency contracts	6,806,867
Infant care incentive	7,664,349

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<b>Total regulated child care</b>	<b>\$263,089,000</b>
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### **Other funding**

Stay-at-home parent support	\$1,167,400
Parent Link centres	16,705,330
Kin Child Care	9,811,710

*Note: Kin Child Care funding is for eligible parents who use a non-custodial relative to care for their child. Kin Child Care is a private, non-regulated arrangement.*

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# British Columbia



## OVERVIEW

Responsibility for British Columbia’s early childhood education and care is split among three ministries. Kindergarten, StrongStart BC and the Ready, Set Learn initiative are under the Ministry of Education. Child care policy and programs are the responsibility of the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD), while child care licensing is under the aegis of the Ministry of Health with monitoring carried out through local health authorities.

British Columbia (BC) introduced full-day kindergarten for five year olds in 2010. All public schools are now required to provide the program. Kindergarten is provided in both public and independent schools, both of which are publicly funded.

A variety of kinds of regulated child care programs for children 0-12 years old are provided including programs outside regular school hours for school-aged children. More than half of BC’s full-day centre-based programs are operated on a for-profit basis; there are no publicly-delivered child care programs.

Regulated family child care in BC for up to seven 0 -12 year olds is provided by individually licensed family child care providers. Family child care providers caring for a maximum of two children or a sibling group are called “license not required” (LNR). Local Child Care Resource and Referral Offices offer a voluntary registration process of LNR providers, in which case they are termed “registered license not required” (RLNR) providers.

## PROVINCIAL CONTEXT

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### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	41,000
1	41,400
2	44,800
3	40,600
4	43,400
5	50,400
6	44,400
7	45,200
8	38,100
9	41,100
10	46,000
11	47,300
12	46,600
Total	570,200

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### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	127,200
3-5	134,400
6-12	308,700
Total	570,200

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### Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0	25,000
1	24,600
2	28,000
3	24,300
4	26,500
5	32,200
6	29,000
7	27,600
8	25,700
9	26,600
10	30,600
11	32,400
12	31,300
Total	363,800

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**Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age	Number of children
0-2	77,600
3-5	83,000
6-12	203,200
Total	363,800

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**Children 0-14 years identifying with an Aboriginal group (2011)**

Age	First Nations	Metis	Inuit	Multiple	Other	Total
0-4	14,390	4,920	95	295	135	19,835
5-9	13,830	5,040	135	265	155	19,420
10-14	14,710	6,005	260	310	140	21,425
Total	42,930	15,975	485	865	430	60,675

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**Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2014 rounded estimate)**

Age of youngest child	Number of mothers	Participation rate (%)
0-2	80,200	69.8
3-5	62,800	76.2
6-15	176,800	79.5

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**FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE****Maternity leave**

Seventeen weeks. An additional six weeks is available to the birth mother if she is unable to return to work for health reasons related to the birth or pregnancy.

**Parental leave**

Thirty-five weeks for birth mothers who have taken maternity leave; must be taken immediately following maternity leave. Thirty-seven weeks for other parent. An additional five weeks is available if the child has a condition requiring additional parental care. Thirty-seven weeks if birth mother has not taken maternity leave. Parental leave must be taken within 52 weeks of the child's birth.

**Adoption leave**

Thirty-seven weeks. An additional five weeks is available if the child has a condition requiring additional parental care.

**Family-related leave**

Five days per year.

*Note: Paid maternity and parental leave provisions are divided between federal and provincial/territorial governments. All leave provisions are set under employment standards legislation by provinces/territories. The federal government benefit for these leaves pays for up to 15 weeks of maternity leave and 35 weeks of parental leave/adoptive leave (either parent) for new parents eligible under Employment Insurance rules. In all jurisdictions except Quebec (which has its own approach), the benefit is paid at a rate of 55% of earned income to a maximum of \$524/week (2015).*

## KINDERGARTEN

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Ministry of Education  
PO Box 9158 STN Prov Govt  
4th floor, 620 Superior Street  
Victoria, BC, V8W 9H1  
Telephone: (250) 516-4589  
Website: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/ministries/education>

### LEGISLATION

*School Act* [R.S.B.C 1996] c.412.  
*Independent School Act* [R.S.B.C. 1996] c. 216.

### AGE ELIGIBILITY

Five years old on or before December 31.

### COMPULSORY

Attendance is not compulsory.

### HOURS

Full school-day.

### CLASS SIZE

A provincial class size limit is specified in the *School Act* which sets the maximum average aggregate size for kindergarten at 19 students. No class can exceed 22 students.

### TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Kindergarten teachers must have teacher certification which requires a B.Ed. or Bachelor's degree plus post-degree teacher training.

There are no ECE requirements.

## CURRICULUM

[British Columbia Kindergarten Curriculum](#)

### SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN

#### 2013-14 operating funding allocated based on kindergarten enrolment

Public schools	\$302,920,920
Independent schools	24,379,254
<b>Total kindergarten funding</b>	<b>\$327,300,174</b>
K-12 per-pupil spending	\$11,418

### STRONGSTART BC

StrongStart BC is another early childhood program under the Ministry of Education. Participation in StrongStart requires that children be accompanied by a parent or other caregiver. It is operated by most school boards for children younger than five years.

## REGULATED CHILD CARE

### PROVINCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Ministry of Children and Family Development  
Child Care Programs and Services  
PO Box 9953, STN Prov. Govt.  
Victoria, BC, V8W 9R3  
Telephone in Greater Victoria: (250) 356-6501  
Elsewhere in BC call toll-free: (888) 338-6622  
Website: <http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/childcare/>  
Ministry of Health  
Community Care Facility Licensing  
PO Box 9638 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria BC  
Telephone: (250) 952-1847  
Website : <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/topic.page?id=83785931C8854381849E4208B4EBBAFB>

## LEGISLATION

*Community Care and Assisted Living Act*, S.B.C. 2002, Chapter 75; Child Care Licensing Regulation 332/2007.

*Child Care Subsidy Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, Chapter 26; Child Care Subsidy Regulation 74/97.

*Child Care BC Act*, S.B.C. 2001. Chapter 4.

## CHILD CARE SERVICES

### UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

#### **Unregulated family child care**

Maximum number of children permitted: Two children or one sibling group of any age, not including children related to the caregiver. This category is referred to in BC as “license not required” (LNR).

A registered license-not-required (RLNR) provider is one who is registered with a Child Care Resource and Referral program and must meet specific registration requirements established by the Ministry of Children and Family Development. RLNR child care is not included in the Child Care Licensing Regulation (It is not licensed).

### REGULATED CHILD CARE

#### **Group child care (under 36 months)**

Centre-based care for no more than 13 hours/day for no more than 12 children from birth to 36 months.

#### **Group child care (30 months to school-age)**

Centre-based child care for no more than 13 hours/day for no more than 25 children.

#### **Group child care (school-age)**

Centre-based child care outside school hours including during school vacations for children attending school for no more than 13 hours/day for no more than 24 children (if kindergarten or Grade 1 children are present) and no more than 30 children (if all children are in Grade 2 or higher).

#### **Preschool (30 months to school-age)**

Centre-based programs for preschool-age children for no more than four hours/day per child for no more than 20 children.

#### **Family child care**

Child care in a private home for no more than seven children, aged birth to 12 years, including the provider’s own children under the age of 12. The care provider must reside in the same location as care is provided. There are further restrictions of number of children by age group – see section on family child care below.

#### **Occasional child care**

Occasional or short-term child care for children who are at least 18 months old for no more than 40 hours in a calendar month to each child. Maximum of 16 children if a child under three years of age is present and a maximum of 20 children if all children are three years of age or older.

#### **Multi-age child care**

Centre-based child care by an early childhood educator to groups of eight children of various ages. No more than three children may be under 36 months, and no more than one child may be younger than 12 months.

#### **In-home multi-age child care**

Child care by an early childhood educator to no more than eight children in the educator’s personal residence. The care provider must reside in the same location as care is provided. No more than three children may be under 36 months, and no more than one child may be younger than 12 months.

#### **Child-minding**

Care offered to immigrant families who are attending programs in respect of English as a Second Language, settlement or labour market integration under a government funding contract; 24 children based on age calculation (child younger than 12 months counts as 2.5 children).

## CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

The [Early Learning Framework \(ELF\)](#) is a document developed by the British Columbia’s Ministry of Education. It applies to all learning environments from StrongStart BC programs to child care settings, preschools and other early childhood development or child health programs.

ELF training is not a mandatory requirement for child care staff; however, MCFD encourages early years professionals providing care for children between the ages of

0-6 years to complete the publicly available, online training module on the Early Learning Framework.

## CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Supported Child Development (SCD) program assists families and child care providers to fully include children needing extra support in both regulated and unregulated child care settings. The program serves children from birth to 12 years old, with services for youth 13 – 19 years old available in some communities. Services include individualised planning, training, information and resources, referrals to other specialised services and when required, extra staffing supports.

In 2014/2015, more than 50 community agencies provided SCD Consultant Services for families and extra support staff for children in child care settings.

In addition, there are 19 Aboriginal SCD programs providing a full range of services with another five Aboriginal SCD programs embedded within SCD agencies. Additionally, there were approximately 20 Aboriginal SCD initiatives providing a partial array of services, often in partnership with SCD programs

Participation is voluntary and SCD services are provided at no charge to parents; however, parents are responsible for child care fees. Additionally, the Ministry of Children and Family Development provides a special needs supplement of up to \$150 per month to assist families whose child has a designated special need who are eligible for the child care subsidy program with the costs of child care.

## ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

On-reserve child care services are licensed and funded by the province through the same programs available to other (non-Aboriginal) facilities, parents, and providers.

A number of post-secondary educational institutions deliver ECE training with an Aboriginal focus. In addition, the provincial government provides funding to the British Columbia Aboriginal Child Care Society to provide training and workshops, resource and referral services to Aboriginal child care providers.

In 2013/14, the number of licensed, funded child care facilities located on-reserve was 223(198 organizations) and the number of licensed, funded child care spaces was 6,109. (These are included in the overall count of child care spaces for British Columbia).

*Note: Child Care Operating Funding (CCOF) data is as of February 3, 2015.*

## SPACE STATISTICS (2014)

### Number of regulated child care spaces

*Note: The table below shows the number of licensed group child care spaces that received Child Care Operating Funding (CCOF) in 2013/14. Information on the number of child care spaces that do not receive CCOF is not available and is therefore not included in the totals; however, the majority of licensed child care providers in the province receive this operating funding.*

<i>Centre-based</i>			
Age Group	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Group child care (under 3 years)	8,674	-	8,674
Group child care (30 months-school-age)	27,260	-	27,260
Preschool	-	21,118	21,118
School-age (including kindergarten)	-	32,267	32,267
Emergency care	-	-	-
Special needs	-	-	-
Group multi-age child care	2,570	-	2,570
<b>Total centre-based spaces</b>	<b>38,504</b>	<b>53,385</b>	<b>91,889</b>
<i>Total family child care spaces</i>			14,830
<b>Total regulated child care spaces</b>			<b>106,719</b>

### Children with special needs in regulated child care

10,800

*Note: This represents children receiving special needs support through the Supported Child Development (SCD) program in both regulated and unregulated child care. The number of children receiving SCD services in regulated child care only is not available.*

### Children receiving fee subsidies in regulated child care

*Note: This table reports monthly averages for 2013/14. Age group is based on children's actual age.*

*Note: some four year olds may be in Group Child Care (School-Age programs, and some five year olds may attend Group Child Care 30months – School-Age programs.*

*Note: Figures provided are averages, and will therefore not sum to the total.*

<i>Age group</i>	<i>Total monthly average</i>	
Under three years (monthly average)	3,597	
Three - four years (monthly average)	7,726	
School-age (includes kindergarten children – 5 year olds) (monthly average)	5,132	
<b>Total children subsidized</b>	<b>16,362</b>	
<b>Number of child care programs</b>		
<i>Centre-based</i>		
Full day (0-3 years; 3-5 years)	1,451	
Part-day nursery schools/preschools (30 months – school entry)	1,077	
After-school programs	1,145	
Other (emergency, specialized)	N/A	
Multi-age	273	
<b>Total centre-based programs</b>	<b>2,963</b>	
<i>School-based child care centres</i>		
For children younger than school-age	514	
Family child care	537	
Number of (CCOF) funded and licensed family child care providers	2,071	
<i>Note: Facility types cannot be summed to get the total number of centre-based programs as facilities may offer more than one care type and be double counted.</i>		
<b>Sponsorship of regulated spaces</b>		
<i>Non-profit</i>		
<i>Age group</i>	<i>Full-day</i>	<i>Part-day</i>
Group child care (under 36 months)	4,072	-
Group child care (30-months-school-age)	12,349	-
Preschool	-	12,142
School-age	-	19,546
Emergency care	-	-
Special needs	-	-
Group multi-age child care	690	-
Total centre-based non-profit spaces (by full- and part-day)	17,111	31,688
<b>Total centre-based non-profit spaces</b>	<b>48,799</b>	
<i>For-profit</i>		
<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Full-day</i>	<i>Part-day</i>
Group child care (under 36 months)	4,602	-
Group child care		

(30 months-school-age)	14,911	-
Preschool	-	8,976
School-age	-	12,721
Emergency Care	-	-
Special needs	-	-
Group multi-age child care	1,880	-
Total centre-based for-profit spaces (by full- and part-day)	21,393	21,697
<b>Total centre-based for-profit spaces</b>	<b>43,090</b>	
<b>Parent fees</b>		
Fees are not set by the province. Parent fees are established by individual child care providers, and vary depending on the type of care, age of child, and community.		
In 2013/14, the Child Care Provider Profile Survey reported the following median monthly fees for licensed, funded group child care facilities in BC:		
<i>Age group</i>	<i>Median monthly centre fee</i>	
Infant	\$965	
Toddler	900	
30 months to five Years	720	
Preschool (3 days)	166	
Preschool (5 days)	304	
Out-of school (kindergarten)	385	
Out of school (grade 1+)	300	
<i>Source: The 2013/2014 Child Care Provider Survey conducted by the provincial government.</i>		
In 2012, a national survey of child care centres and staff found median monthly fees of:		
<i>Age group</i>	<i>Median monthly fee</i>	
Infant	\$1,047	
Toddler	907	
Preschool	761	
In 2014, a national survey of large cities included the following Alberta cities:		
<i>City</i>	<i>Median monthly preschooler fee</i>	
Vancouver	\$1,110	
Burnaby	931.70	
Surrey	940.70	
<i>Note: See Table 3 in this document for age breakdowns.</i>		

## STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

### LICENSED CENTRES

<b>Maximum centre size:</b>	not specified	
<b>Maximum room size:</b>	not specified	
<b>Maximum staff/child ratios and group sizes</b>		
Age	Staff: child ratios	Max. group sizes
Under 36 months	1:4	12
30 months- school entry	1:8	25
Preschool	1:10	20
Kindergarten- Grade 1	1:12	24
Above Grade 1	1:15	30
Multi-age	1:8	8

#### Centre staff qualification requirements

All staff must be “of good character”. If there are concerns regarding the practice of a licensed Early Childhood Educator, Special Needs Educator, Infant/Toddler Educator or Assistant, the Director of the Early Childhood Educator Registry has the authority to investigate and take action on a certificate, including the placing of terms and conditions, suspension or cancellation. In all cases, Early Childhood Educators or Assistants are entitled to a hearing and appeal process.

#### Early Childhood Educators

There are four categories of certification for an Early Childhood Educator:

- *Early Childhood Educator*: Successful completion of a basic early childhood education training program that is a minimum of 902 hours of instruction and includes training in the areas of: child growth and development; program development, curriculum planning and foundations; family, community resources and communications; health, safety and nutrition; and practicum. This training is to be completed at an approved training institution. In addition, a written reference from an educator and completion of 500 hours of supervised work experience is also required.
- *One year Early Childhood Educator certificate*: As above. However there is no requirement to submit a reference or complete 500 hours of work experience. This certificate is only valid for one year and may only be renewed once.

- *Infant and Toddler Educator*: Must qualify for an early childhood educator certificate and have successfully completed a specialized post-basic program that includes 250 hours of instruction in the areas of: advanced child growth and development; working with infants and toddlers; working with families; administration; advanced health, safety and nutrition; and a 200-hour infant/toddler practicum. This training is to be completed at a training institution approved to offer the post-basic program.
- *Special needs Early Childhood Educator*: Requires completion of the basic early childhood education program that includes 250 hours of instruction in the areas of: advanced child growth and development; working with children with special needs; working with families; administration; advanced health safety and nutrition; and a 200-hour special needs practicum. This training is to be completed at a training institution approved to offer the post-basic program.

#### Assistant Early Childhood Educators

This category requires successful completion of one course of a basic early childhood education training program from an approved training institution in one of the following three areas: child growth and development, child guidance or health, safety and nutrition.

#### Responsible Adult

These staff must be at least 19 years of age, able to provide care and mature guidance to children, have completed a course or a combination of courses of at least 20 hours duration in child development, guidance, health and safety, or nutrition and have relevant work experience.

#### Program staffing requirements (combination of educational/training qualifications and ratios)

- *Group child care, under 36 months*: Each group of four or fewer children requires one infant and toddler educator. Each group of five to eight children requires one infant and toddler educator and one early childhood educator. Each group of nine to 12 children requires one infant and toddler educator, one early childhood educator and one assistant.
- *Group child care, 30 months to school-age*: Each group of eight or fewer children requires one early childhood educator. Each group of nine to 16 children requires one early childhood educator and one assistant. Each group of 17 to 25 children requires one early childhood educator and two assistants.



- *Preschool, 30 months to school-age*: Each group of 10 or fewer children requires one early childhood educator. Each group of 11 to 20 children requires one early childhood educator and one assistant (some exceptions apply where there is an approved parent education program). Parent education programs are approved by the local Medical Health Officer and may incorporate workshops or courses that a parent would be required to complete prior to working with the children, in areas such as guidance and discipline, health safety nutrition, programming and development.
- *Group child care (school-age)*: If a child in kindergarten or Grade 1 is present, each group of 10 or fewer children requires one responsible adult, and each group of 11-20 children requires two responsible adults. If no children in kindergarten or Grade 1 are present, each group of 15 or fewer children requires one responsible adult and each group of 16-25 children requires two responsible adults.
- *Family child care*: If any child younger than 12 months old is present, a responsible adult may care for seven or fewer children in a personal residence, having no more than three children younger than 48 months old and, of those three, no more than one child younger than 12 months. If no child younger than 12 months old is present, a responsible adult may care for seven or fewer children in a personal residence, having no more than four children younger than 48 months old, and of those four, no more than two children younger than 24 months old.
- *Occasional child care*: If any child younger than 36 months old is present, each group of four or fewer children requires one responsible adult. Each group of 5-8 requires two responsible adults. Each group of 9-12 requires three responsible adults. Each group of 13-16 requires four responsible adults. If no child younger than 36 months old is present, each group of eight or fewer requires one responsible adult. Each group of 9-16 requires two responsible adults. Each group of 17-20 requires three responsible adults.
- *Multi-age care*: Each group of eight children requires one early childhood educator. No more than three children in each group may be younger than 36 months old and no more than one child may be younger than 12 months old.
- *In-home multi-age care*: An early childhood educator (the licensee) may care for no more than eight children

in his or her personal residence, and no more than three of those children may be younger than 36 months old. No more than one child may be younger than 12 months old.

- *Child-minding*: A group of up to 24 children, with each child younger than 12 months counted as 2.5 children, each child younger than 36 months but 12 months or older counted as 2 children, and each child 36 months or older counted as one child. A group of eight or fewer children requires one responsible adult, 9- 17 requires 2 responsible adults and 18 – 24 requires three responsible adults.

## REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

### Model of organization

Individually licensed

### Maximum capacity

If any child younger than 12 months old is present, a responsible adult caring for seven or fewer children in a personal residence can have no more than three children younger than 48 months old and, of those three, no more than one child younger than 12 months. If no child younger than 12 months old is present, a responsible adult caring for seven or fewer children in a personal residence can have no more than four children younger than 48 months old, and of those four, no more than two children younger than 24 months old.

### Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

All facilities have at least one comprehensive licensing inspection conducted by their local health authority every 12-18 months. An initial inspection by the local fire authority may be required when a new licensed family child care facility opens.

### Family child care provider qualification requirements

Providers need not be certified early childhood educators unless they are operating an In-Home Multi-Age Care program. Providers must be at least 19 years of age, be of good character and have a valid first-aid certificate, be able to provide care and mature guidance to children, and have completed a course or combination of courses of at least 20 hours in child development, guidance, health and safety or nutrition and have relevant work experience.

A criminal records check must be completed for any person over the age of 12 who will be ordinarily present at the facility.

## FUNDING

### CHILD CARE SERVICES ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

Fee subsidies are available to families in all licensed child care (a family child care home, group child care centre or preschool) and in some unregulated arrangements—registered licence-not-required, licence-not-required and in the child’s own home.

Non-profits and for-profits are treated the same way vis-à-vis operating funding. As well, both non-profits and for-profits are eligible for child care major capital funding (different maximum thresholds are in place based on the type of care). Only licensed non-profit child care facilities are eligible for child care minor capital funding.

### TYPES OF FUNDING

#### Fee subsidies

Subsidies are available to all eligible families; amounts are based on income, family size, age of children and type of care. Subsidy rates may not cover full fees, so subsidized parents may be charged above the maximum subsidy rates. The government may pay these surcharges on behalf of the parent if child care is arranged or recommended by staff delegated under the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* after staff have offered support services and agreements to the child and family, referred the child and family to a community agency or investigated the child’s need of protection under section 16(2) of the *Act*, or the child care is recommended under the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* for a parent participating in a Young Parent Program.

#### One time funding

##### *Child Care Minor Capital Funding*

Available to help licensed group non-profit child care providers with programs maintain quality services for families in their communities (i.e., emergency repair, replacement and relocation). Child care facilities may receive up to \$2,000 per facility. Available to non-profit societies in good standing with the BC Corporate Registry, local governments, public institutions, bands/tribal councils and First Nations are eligible to receive funding. Occasional child care, child minding, residential care and family child care licensees are not eligible to receive Child Care Minor Capital Funding.

##### *Child Care Major Capital Funding*

Supports costs associated with the creation of new licensed child care spaces excluding occasional child care, child minding and residential care. The province opened the first application intake period for the Child Care Major Capital Funding Program in May 2014. Under this program, child care facilities could apply to receive up to a 90% provincial contribution for the creation of licensed child care spaces located on school grounds and up to a 75% provincial contribution for all other projects. Non-profit organizations could receive up to a maximum of \$500,000 and for-profit organizations with a maximum of \$250,000.

#### Recurring funding

##### *Child Care Operating Fund (CCOF)*

Assists eligible licensed group and family child care providers with the cost of providing child care. Amounts are based on enrolment, number of hours per day care is required and the age of the type of child care. Daily rates are set by the government.

##### *Supported Child Development Fund (SCDP)*

Available in both regulated and unregulated child care. Assists and covers consultation, training and extra staffing required to support children with extra support needs attend child care. Some communities have targeted some of the funds towards improving access for Aboriginal families.

#### Regulated child care funding

Operating funding is available for eligible licensed group and family child care, with the exception of occasional child care and child minding; funding amounts are based on enrolment. Capital funding is available to eligible licensed group child care providers.

PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED  
CHILD CARE

<b>Fee subsidies</b>	\$91,004,000
<b>One time funding</b>	
Minor capital	\$390,000
<b>Recurring funding</b>	
Child Care Operating Fund (CCOF)	\$77,254,000
Supported Child Development Program (SCDP)	58,785,000
<b>Total regulated child care</b>	<b>\$227,433,000</b>
<b>Other funding</b>	
Child Care Resource and Referral	\$9,740,000
Child care fee subsidies in unregulated child care	33,659,000

*Note: Spending on fee subsidies in regulated child care includes subsidies for children attending licensed and licence-not-required (i.e., unregulated) child care facilities.*



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# Northwest Territories

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## OVERVIEW

Regulated child care and kindergarten in the Northwest Territories are both under the Department of Education, Culture and Employment (Early Childhood and School Services). Kindergarten may be full or part-day; most are full-day.

All regulated child care programs are non-profit. Several full-day child care programs for preschool children are operated by school boards.

Regulated family child care homes are termed licensed family home day care facilities.

## TERRITORIAL CONTEXT

### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	1,500
3-5	2,200
6-12	4,000
Total	7,700

### Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	900
3-5	1,500
6-12	2,700
Total	5,100

### Children 0-14 years identifying with an Aboriginal group (2011)

Age	First Nations	Metis	Inuit	Multiple	Other	Total
0-4	1,355	285	485	0	0	2,140
5-9	1,240	250	420	0	25	1,950
10-14	1,335	240	355	10	15	1,960
Total	3,930	785	1,265	20	45	6,040

### Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2014 rounded estimate)

Not available.

## FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE

### Maternity leave

Seventeen weeks.

### Parental leave

Thirty-seven weeks may be shared between the parents. Fifty-two weeks is the maximum allowed for combined maternity and parental leave.

### Adoption leave

Thirty-seven weeks.

*Note: Paid maternity and parental leave provisions are divided between federal and provincial/territorial governments. All leave provisions are set under employment standards legislation by provinces/territories. The federal government benefit for these leaves pays for up to 15 weeks of maternity leave and 35 weeks of parental leave/adoptive leave (either parent) for new parents eligible under Employment Insurance rules. In all jurisdictions except Quebec (which has its own approach), the benefit is paid at a rate of 55% of earned income to a maximum of \$524/week (2015).*

## KINDERGARTEN

### TERRITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Department of Education, Culture and Employment  
Early Childhood and School Services  
PO Box 1320  
Yellowknife, NT, X1A 2L9  
Telephone: (867) 920-3491  
Website: [www.ece.gov.nt.ca](http://www.ece.gov.nt.ca)

### LEGISLATION

Northwest Territories. Legislative Assembly. *Education Act*, R.S.N.W.T. 1995, c. 28.

The legislation applies to public and private schools. A departmental directive provides additional guidelines (funding and reporting, administration, monitoring and education program) for private schools.

### AGE ELIGIBILITY

Five years old by December 31.

### COMPULSORY

Kindergarten enrolment is not compulsory. Access is a legislated entitlement.

### HOURS

A jurisdiction can choose to offer either a full-day or a half-day program or both. A majority are full-day.

### CLASS SIZE

There is no class size limit.

### TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

A Teaching Certificate (B.Ed. or post-secondary degree plus one year course work in a Faculty of Education) or one of the following three levels of education and experience specific to kindergarten:

- *Interim Kindergarten Teaching Certificate*: Two-year diploma in Early Childhood plus 25 hours of teacher training;

- *Standard Kindergarten Teaching Certificate*: Interim Kindergarten Teaching Certificate and two academic years of teaching;
- *Kindergarten Specialist Certificate*: Standard Kindergarten Teaching Certificate and a one year teacher training program approved by the Registrar.

Teachers are required to take 120 hours of professional development over five years, with a minimum of 15 hours each year.

### CURRICULUM

[Integrated Kindergarten Curriculum](#)

### SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN

K-12 student (per full time equivalent)	\$19,400
Estimated total spending:	\$7.8 million

## REGULATED CHILD CARE

### TERRITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Department of Education, Culture and Employment  
Government of the Northwest Territories  
Early Childhood and School Services  
Lahm Ridge Tower, 3rd Floor  
P.O. Box 1320  
Yellowknife, NT, X1A 2L9  
Telephone: (867) 920-3491  
Website: [www.ece.gov.nt.ca/](http://www.ece.gov.nt.ca/)

### LEGISLATION

Northwest Territories. Legislative Assembly. *Northwest Territories Child Day Care Act* and the Child Day Care Standards and Regulations 1988 (2013).

### CHILD CARE SERVICES

#### UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

##### Unregulated family child care

Maximum number of children permitted: Four including the caregiver's own children up to 12 years.

## REGULATED CHILD CARE

### Centre day care facility

Group care, instruction and supervision provided in a place other than a private residence.

### Preschool day care

Part-time day care provided for a child two years of age or older not enrolled for the full day in a school operated under the *Education Act*.

### Family home day care facility

A child day care facility where day care is provided within the private residence of the operator. Care in a private home for up to eight children under 12 years (including the caregiver's own children).

### Out-of-school day care

Day care provided following completion of the daily school program for a child who is in regular attendance at a school operated under the Education Act.

## CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

Curriculum framework in development

## CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There are no segregated child care programs for children with special needs. The NWT Child Day Care Standards Regulations state that a centre day care facility must modify the daily program to ensure that any child is able to participate and also obtain any specialized equipment required for the child to participate.

Child care providers are subsidized with higher operating grants for children with special needs. Documentation from a health care professional must be provided.

## ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

The Northwest Territories is composed of Inuit and Dene communities outside the capital city of Yellowknife. The majority of community-based programs are available to all children equally.

Aboriginal Head Start programs are the only programs targeted specifically to Aboriginal children. However, they may include non-Aboriginal children if capacity allows. There are eight Aboriginal Head Start programs in the Northwest Territories.

## SPACE STATISTICS (2014)

### Number of regulated child care spaces

<i>Centre-based</i>	
Age group	Number of spaces
Infant (0-2 years)	124
Preschool (2-5 years)	845
After-school (6-12 years)	503
<b>Total regulated centre-based spaces</b>	<b>1,475</b>
<i>Family child care</i>	
Infant (0-2 years)	100
Preschool (2-5 years)	200
After-school (6-12 years)	100
<b>Total family child care spaces</b>	<b>400</b>
<b>Total number of regulated spaces</b>	<b>1,785</b>

*Note: All centres are licensed for full-time spaces even though many operate as part-day nursery schools/playschools. Of the 845 preschool spaces for children age 2-5, 321 operate as part-day spaces.*

### Children with special needs in regulated child care

Information not available.

### Children receiving fee subsidies

Information not available.

### Numbers of child care programs

<i>Centre-based</i>	
Full-day centres	25
Part-day nursery schools/preschools	14
Stand-alone school-age centres	17
<b>Total centre-based programs</b>	<b>56</b>
<i>School-based child care centres</i>	
For preschool-age children	11
For school-age children (included in centre-based )	14
<i>Family child care</i>	
Individually licensed family child care providers	50

### Sponsorship

All centres are currently non-profit and family home day care facilities are also considered to be non-profit.



### Parent fees

According to the territorial government, the average monthly parent fee for full-time centre-based care varies from free of charge up to \$1,380 for an infant and free of charge up to \$1,170 for a preschooler. In regulated family day homes, the average monthly parent fee is \$1,000 for an infant and \$900 for a preschooler.

## STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

### REGULATED CENTRES

**Maximum centre size:** not specified

#### Staff/child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff: child ratios	Max. group sizes
0-12 months	1:3	6
13-24 months	1:4	8
25-35 months	1:6	12
3 years	1:8	16
4 years	1:9	18
5 years	1:10	20

### Centre staff qualification requirements

Primary staff must be at least 19 years of age and have a certificate in first aid and infant/child cardiopulmonary resuscitation. All staff must provide a criminal record check, including a vulnerable sector search prepared by the RCMP.

Primary staff must have successfully completed a post-secondary program in child development satisfactory to the Director or demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Director, an understanding of developmentally appropriate practices in respect of children and the ability to apply that understanding to the operator's child care program.

### REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

#### Model of organization

Individually licensed.

#### Maximum capacity

Maximum of eight children under 12 years (including the provider's own children). No more than six of the eight children may be under six years of age, and no more than two children may be under two years.

### Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

Homes are visited at least once a year by staff from the Early Childhood Program and a representative from each of the Public Health Department and the Fire Marshall's office. Licenses are usually issued in conjunction with annual inspections.

### Family day home provider qualification requirements

A provider must be a minimum of 19 years of age and have a certificate in first aid and infant/child cardiopulmonary resuscitation. The operator and all adults that live in the home must provide a criminal record check, including a vulnerable sector search prepared by the RCMP. Must undertake training in relation to child development and care on an annual basis through appropriate courses, seminars or workshops and retain documentation respecting attendance at such training.

## FUNDING

### CHILD CARE SERVICES ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

Non-profit licensed centres and family day homes including part-time, infant, after-school and special needs spaces are eligible for public funding.

### TYPES OF FUNDING

#### Fee subsidies

Subsidies are payable to any regulated family day home or non-profit child care centre.

The Child Care User Subsidy is paid directly to eligible parents who are receiving Income Assistance. Once approved to receive the subsidy for child care, parents must provide monthly invoices from their child care provider and provide receipts showing that the child care fee has been paid. Proof of participation in school/training/employment must also be provided.

Subsidy rates	Licensed	Unlicensed
Infant (0-1)	\$42	\$33
Children (2-12)	39	28
Afterschool (6-12)	15	8

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**One time funding**

Start-up funding is available to non-profit licensed centres and family day homes at differing rates. There are ten different rates based on the cost of living in different parts of the territory.

Service	Funding per space (\$) (range)
<i>Non-profit licensed centres</i>	
Pre-school space	1,560 - 2,964
Infant space	2,340 - 4,446
<i>Family day homes</i>	
Pre-school space	975 - 1,853
Infant space	1,463 - 2,779

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**Operating funding**

Available to non-profit licensed centres and family day homes. Ranges from \$10.40 - \$19.80/per occupied preschool space/day, depending on the location of the program.

For infants it is \$15.60 - \$29.60/per occupied space/day, depending on the location of the program.

Family day homes and centres receive the same amounts in operating grants.

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**TERRITORIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE**

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<b>Child Care User Subsidy</b>	<b>\$66,390</b>
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**One time funding**

Start-up Contributions	166,904
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**Recurring funding**

Operational Contributions	2,196,798
Rent and Mortgage Contributions	94,290
Minor Health and Safety Renovations	63,045
Healthy Children Initiative	1,712,425
Small Community Initiative	248,753

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<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,548,605</b>
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# Nunavut

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## OVERVIEW

Nunavut's regulated child care and kindergarten are the responsibility of the Department of Education. Kindergarten is a part-day program for all five year olds. Regulated child care programs for children aged 0-12 are all non-profit. Family child care homes are called family day homes in Nunavut.

The Department of Education's Early Childhood Division is responsible for promoting early childhood development, the licensing and monitoring of early childhood facilities and developing language and culturally appropriate early childhood resources.

Nunavut is the result of one land claim agreement that took effect April 1st, 1999 and is all considered to be Indigenous land. There are no reserves. Nunavut's population is predominantly Inuit.

## TERRITORIAL CONTEXT

### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	2,200
3-5	2,100
6-12	5,000
Total	9,300

### Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	800
3-5	900
6-12	2,500
Total	4,200

### Children 0-14 years identifying with an Aboriginal group (2011)

Age	First Nations	Metis	Inuit	Multiple	Other	Total
0-4	15	0	3,755	0	0	3,775
5-9	10	10	3,175	0	0	3,195
10-14	10	10	2,980	0	0	3,000
Total	30	15	9,915	10	0	9,970

### Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2014 rounded estimate)

Not available

## FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE

### Maternity leave

Seventeen weeks.

### Parental leave

Thirty-seven weeks may be shared between the parents. Fifty-two weeks is the maximum allowed for combined maternity and parental leave.

### Adoption leave

Thirty-seven weeks

*Note: Paid maternity and parental leave provisions are divided between federal and provincial/territorial governments. All leave provisions are set under employment standards legislation by provinces/territories. The federal government benefit for these leaves pays for up to 15 weeks of maternity leave and 35 weeks of parental leave/adoptive leave (either parent) for new parents eligible under Employment Insurance rules. In all jurisdictions except Quebec (which has its own approach), the benefit is paid at a rate of 55% of earned income to a maximum of \$524/week (2015).*

## **KINDERGARTEN**

### **TERRITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN**

Curriculum and School Services  
Department of Education  
P.O. Box 1000, Station 960  
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0  
Phone: (867) 975-5666  
Website: [www.edu.gov.nu.ca](http://www.edu.gov.nu.ca)

### **LEGISLATION**

Nunavut. Legislative Assembly. *Education Act*. 2008

### **KINDERGARTEN SERVICES**

Kindergarten is delivered in public schools under regional school operations.

### **AGE ELIGIBILITY**

Five years old by December 31.

### **COMPULSORY**

Not compulsory but most attend. Access is legislated and it is an entitlement.

### **HOURS**

The requirement is for no fewer than 485 and no more than 570 instructional hours per year and no more than six hours/day.

### **CLASS SIZE**

There is no class size limit.

## **TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS**

Must be a certified teacher with a B.Ed. or a certified kindergarten teacher. Kindergarten certification requires a two-year program in ECE, successful completion of two academic years of classroom teaching and completion of courses for one-year teacher training, or a Letter of Authority which requires one year ECE or some course work towards a B.Ed. and must be renewed annually.

Most kindergarten teachers have a B.Ed. or Letter of Authority as a Language Specialist, which means that they speak an Inuit language. The *Inuit Language Protection Act* requires bilingual education. All but five kindergarten classes are in Inuit languages. A kindergarten teacher who has only a Language Specialist qualification (Letter of Authority) must be participating in teacher training.

## **CURRICULUM**

[Kindergarten curriculum guides](#)

## **SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN**

K-12 per pupil spending \$14,768.10

## **REGULATED CHILD CARE**

### **TERRITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE**

Department of Education  
Government of Nunavut  
Early Childhood Division  
Box 1000, Station 920  
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0  
Telephone: (867) 975-5600  
Website: <http://www.gov.nu.ca/education/information/early-childhood-education-0>

### **LEGISLATION**

Nunavut. Legislative Assembly. *Northwest Territories Child Day Care Act* and *Child Day Care Standards and Regulations*, 1994.

## CHILD CARE SERVICES

### UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

#### **Unregulated family child care**

Maximum number of children permitted: Four, including the caregiver's own children up to 12 years

### REGULATED CHILD CARE

#### **Day care centres**

Group care, instruction and supervision for five or more children aged 0 – 12 years by a person who is not a relative of the majority of the children

#### **Nursery schools/preschool**

Programs for children under six years of age for four consecutive hours or less a day including Aboriginal Head Start Programs

#### **Family day homes**

Care in a private home for up to eight children under 12 years (including the caregiver's own children)

#### **After-school care**

Care outside school hours for school-aged children up to and including 11 years of age

## CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

None

## CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There are no segregated child care programs for children with special needs.

Centres and other care providers are funded to provide extra support for children with special needs through daily operating grants, which are based on the age of the child and the area in which the centre is located.

The operating grant for a preschool child is increased by approximately 50% for a child with an identified special need and is an entitlement.

A letter from a recognised health care professional is required for the centre to receive the additional funding for a child. In addition, centres may apply for funding to the Healthy Children's Initiative for adaptive equipment or for a one-on-one worker if necessary.

Parents are eligible for fee subsidy for their children with special needs even if they are not employed or at school. This subsidy eligibility requires a financial needs assessment to be applied and parents must have a medical referral from a recognised health care professional for the child to be in developmental care.

## ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

Nunavut is the result of one land claim agreement that took effect April 1st, 1999 and is all considered to be Indigenous land. There are no reserves. Nunavut's population is predominantly Inuit.

Since 1996, the First Nations and Inuit Child Care Initiative (FNICCI) provided capital and start-up funding for the development of approximately 20 centres. There are also seven Aboriginal Head Start programs funded by the federal government.

There is an Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ASETS) regional office in each of Nunavut's three regions. Each ASETS office has the responsibility for the delivery and administration of the Inuit child care program in their region established with FNICCI funding.

In addition to providing capital funding for new child care centres, all child care centres with the exception of the seven Aboriginal Head Start programs (which are funded by the federal government) may receive block funding from ASETS.

ASETS may also provide one-time funding for repairs and renovations, and for developing or acquiring culturally relevant program materials. In addition, ASETS may provide wage subsidies based on the number of Inuit staff in a centre, and fee subsidies to land claim beneficiary parents that are in addition to the regular fee subsidy funded through Early Childhood Services.

ASETS offices have also provided funding for training in each region, including the delivery of ECE training through Arctic College.

## SPACE STATISTICS (2014)

<b>Number of regulated child care spaces</b>			
<i>Centre-based</i>			
Age group	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Infant (under two years)	186	-	186
Preschool (two years-school entry)	534	255	789
School-age (kindergarten-12 years)	-	157	157
<i>Family child care</i>			
Infant (under two years)	2	-	2
Preschool (two years-school entry)	4	-	4
School-age (kindergarten-12 years)	-	2	2
<b>Total number of regulated child care spaces</b>	<b>726</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>1,140</b>
<b>Children with special needs in regulated child care</b>			
Information not available			
<b>Children receiving fee subsidies in regulated child care</b>			
The number of children is not available but 85 families received subsidies through the Daycare User Subsidy and 72 families received subsidies through the Young Parents Stay Learning program. These are in addition to fee subsidies provided to land claim beneficiary parents through the ASETS program (see Aboriginal child care section above).			
<b>Number of child care programs</b>			
<i>Centre-based</i>			
Full-day centres			32
Part-day nursery schools/preschools			15
Stand-alone after-school programs			7
<b>Total number of centre-based programs</b>			<b>54</b>
<i>School-based child care centres</i>			
For preschool-age children			13
For school-age children (included in centre-based)			5
Family child care homes			1
<b>Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces</b>			
Non-profit			1,140
<i>Note: All child care centres in Nunavut are non-profit. Family day homes are considered to be non-profit.</i>			

### Parent fees

*Average daily parent fees for centre-based care*

Age group	Full time fees	Part time fees
Infants	\$32.97	\$16.56
Preschoolers	33.27	19.72
School-age	-	14.77

*Note: This information comes from the application for Program Contributions collected each year.*

## STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

### REGULATED CENTRES

**Maximum centre size:** not specified

**Maximum room size:** not specified

### Staff /child ratios and group sizes

*Maximum staff:child ratios and group sizes for individual age groups*

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max.group sizes
0 – 12 months	1:3	6
13 – 24 months	1:4	8
23 – 25 months	1:6	12
3 years	1:8	16
4 years	1:9	18
5 – 11 years	1:10	20.

*Maximum staff: child ratios and group size for mixed age groupings*

Age	Staff:child ratios	Max.group sizes
0 – 24 months	1:4	8
2 – 5 years	1:8	16
5 – 11 years	1:10	20

### Centre staff qualification requirements

There are no early childhood training requirements.

Staff must be at least 19 years of age, have an awareness of early childhood development theory, and basic health and safety measures, have immunizations up to date, provide a doctor's note documenting good health, have a first-aid certificate, submit to a RCMP Security Clearance, and represent the cultural background of the children.

## REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

### Model of organization

Individually licensed

### Maximum capacity

Maximum of eight children under 12 years including the provider's children. No more than six of the eight children may be five years or under, no more than three children may be under three years, and no more than two children may be under two years.

### Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

Homes are visited at least once a year by staff from the Early Childhood Program and a representative from each of the Public Health Department and the Fire Marshall's office

### Provider qualification requirements

There are no early childhood training requirements. Providers must be at least 19 years of age, have an awareness of early childhood development theory, have immunizations up to date, provide a doctor's note stating good health, have a first-aid certificate, submit to a RCMP Security Clearance, and represent the cultural background of the children.

## FUNDING

### CHILD CARE SERVICES ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

Funding is available to non-profit regulated centres and family day homes except fee subsidies, which may be used in unregulated child care.

### TYPES OF FUNDING

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#### Fee subsidies

*Daycare User Subsidy (Administered by the Department of Family Services)*

Fee subsidies may be used in both regulated and unregulated child care. Subsidies are paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents if the child care is a regulated service, unless the child care centre requests that the subsidies be paid directly to the parent.

In the case of unregulated care, the subsidy is paid to the parent and is based on an attendance report signed by the child care provider. Parents may apply for subsidy in person, by mail or fax. An unregulated provider may be a relative of a parent of the child being subsidised.

The intention of the subsidy program is to provide assistance for the parent to work or take part in a training program. Eligibility is determined by a needs assessment, which takes into consideration parent costs and family size as well as income. As a needs assessment is used, there are no set income eligibility levels.

Eligibility varies with clients' actual housing, utility and child care costs, plus social assistance rates for food and clothing. To be eligible for a fee subsidy, parents must be working, attending school or a training program or have a child with a special need, for whom child care is recommended by a recognised health care professional.

Maximum subsidy rates are set for each type of care. There is no minimum user fee and programs may surcharge subsidised parents

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*Young Parents Stay Learning Program (Administered by the Department of Education)*

Since June 2009, all parents who are working toward a high school diploma may be eligible for this child care subsidy regardless of age. Students under 18 who are attending a post secondary institution within Nunavut may also be eligible.

Eligibility does not require a needs test.

The parent must use regulated child care if available; unregulated care may be approved in certain circumstances.

Maximum rates and payments are the same as the regular subsidy rates. The parent's school attendance records are sent to the early childhood officer along with the child's attendance records; there is an expectation that the parent will be attending school unless he or she is ill or has an excused absence. Parents may apply for subsidy in person, by mail or fax.

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#### One time funding

*Start-up funding*

Available to non-profit regulated centres and family day homes including part-time, infant, after school and special needs spaces. Funding ranges from \$300 – \$3,420/ space depending on the geographic area of the program and the ages of children served.



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#### *Security and Safety Funding*

The Security & Safety Funding program was developed and implemented in the fall of 2014. Each licensed facility is eligible once over the next three years for up to \$40,000 for upgrades and repairs to their security and safety features.

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#### **Recurring Funding**

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##### *Operating funding*

\$2.42 – \$17.25/occupied space/day (depending on the age of the child and the location of the program) is available to non-profit regulated centres and family day homes.

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#### **Other funding**

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##### *Healthy Children Initiative*

The Department of Education offers funding to early childhood programs (licensed and unlicensed) and additional programs and services for individual children aged 0 - 6 years who require extra supports to reach their full developmental potential. These programs can offer a variety of services such as supporting parent and child play groups, parenting workshops, home visits, etc.

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##### *District Education Authority – Early Childhood Education (DEA-ECE) Funding*

The *Education Act* states that District Education Authorities (DEAs) shall provide early childhood programs that promote fluency in the Inuit language and knowledge of the Inuit culture. District Education Authorities (DEAs) are able to access funding to support existing early childhood programs (licensed and unlicensed) in promoting the Inuit language and culture (this requirement is modified with regard to programs falling under the Commission scolaire francophone du Nunavut (CSFN) to refer to promotion of French language and francophone culture).

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## TERRITORIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED CHILD CARE

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#### **Fee subsidies**

Daycare User Subsidy \$502,000

*Note: The fee subsidy budget includes spending on both regulated and unregulated child care.*

Young Parents Stay Learning 133,000

*Note: The allocation for the Young Parents Stay Learning program is not comparable to previous years due to changes in parameters. In 2009/10 the actual spending was considerably higher than the allocation.*

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**One time funding** \$833,000

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#### **Recurring funding**

Start-up and operating grants \$1,970,000

*Note: A breakdown between one-time start-up and ongoing operating grants is not available.*

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**Total regulated child care** \$3,438,000

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#### **Other Funding**

Healthy Children Initiative \$595,000

*Note: This funding is for early childhood programs to enhance the development opportunities of children 0 to 6 years of age. This can be used for licensed or unlicensed early childhood programs.*

DEA-ECE Language/Cultural Funding 1,600,000

*Note: This funding is for District Education Authorities to provide/support early childhood programs that enhance the fluency of the Inuit language and knowledge of the Inuit culture. This can be used for licensed or unlicensed early childhood programs.*

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# Yukon Territory

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## OVERVIEW

Regulated child care is under the aegis of Health and Social Services whereas kindergarten is the responsibility of the Department of Education and part of the public school system. Kindergarten may be part-day or full-day for five year olds. There is a full-day Early Learners program in the Whitehorse francophone school and in some local communities there are part-day Early Learners programs for four year olds.

Regulated child care for 0-12 year olds is for-profit and non-profit with for-profit services predominating; there are no publicly operated programs. Regulated family child care homes are called family day homes and are individually licensed.

## TERRITORIAL CONTEXT

### Number of children 0-12 years (2014 estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	1,300
3-5	1,200
6-12	2,500
Total	5,000

### Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers (2014 rounded estimate)

Age	Number of children
0-2	800
3-5	900
6-12	2,000
Total	3,700

### Children 0-14 years identifying with an Aboriginal group (2011)

Age	First Nations	Metis	Inuit	Multiple	Other	Total
0-4	515	55	20	0	0	605
5-9	500	75	0	0	0	595
10-14	620	70	20	0	0	720
Total	1,630	205	55	15	15	1,920

### Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child (2014 rounded estimate)

Not available

## FAMILY-RELATED LEAVE

### Maternity leave

Seventeen weeks.

### Parental leave

Thirty-seven weeks. Parents who share a parental leave normally cannot take their leave at the same time, whether or not they work for the same employer.

### Adoption leave

Thirty-seven weeks.

*Note: Paid maternity and parental leave provisions are divided between federal and provincial/territorial governments. All leave provisions are set under employment standards legislation by provinces/territories. The federal government benefit for these leaves pays for up to 15 weeks of maternity leave and 35 weeks of parental leave/adoptive leave (either parent) for new parents eligible under Employment Insurance rules. In all jurisdictions except Quebec (which has its own approach), the benefit is paid at a rate of 55% of earned income to a maximum of \$524/week (2015).*

## KINDERGARTEN

### TERRITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Government of Yukon  
Department of Education  
P.O. Box 2703  
Whitehorse, YT, Y1A 2C6  
Telephone: (867) 667-5186  
Website: <http://www.education.gov.yk.ca/>

### LEGISLATION

Yukon Territory. Legislative Assembly. *Education Act*, 1990. S.Y. c.25.

### AGE ELIGIBILITY

Four years and eight months as of September 1 for five year old kindergarten.

Three years and eight months as of September 1 for four year old Early Learners programs.

### COMPULSORY

All five year olds have access to kindergarten; it is not compulsory.

### HOURS

Full day and half day programs.

### CLASS SIZE

Average/mean class size in 2013-2014: 16.

Full day classes are capped at 18 students.

Part-day programs are not large enough to require a class size cap.

There is considerable variation between small rural schools where class size is 5 – 10 kindergarten students and large urban schools where there are 12 – 18 kindergarten students.

## TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

There are no ECE requirements for kindergarten teachers.

A kindergarten teacher must have teacher certification which requires a B.Ed. or a bachelor's degree plus an approved program of teacher preparation of not less than one academic year.

### CURRICULUM

Yukon adapts the [British Columbia Kindergarten Curriculum](#)

### SPENDING ON KINDERGARTEN

#### Spending on Learning Together programs

In 2013/14 \$47,494 was spent on the Learning Together pilot, a program for children aged three to five and their caregivers.

Spending per student K-12 \$18,803

## REGULATED CHILD CARE

### TERRITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE

Child Care Services Unit  
Yukon Health and Social Services  
Government of the Yukon  
P.O. Box 2703  
Whitehorse, YT, Y1A 2C6  
Telephone: (867) 667-5635  
Website: <http://www.hss.gov.yk.ca/childcareunit.php>

### LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

Yukon Territory. Legislative Assembly. *Child Care Act*, 1990.

Yukon Territory. Legislative Assembly. *Child Care Centre Program Regulation*, 1995.

Yukon Territory. Legislative Assembly. *Family Day Home Program Regulation*, 1995.

Yukon Territory. Legislative Assembly. *School-Age Program Regulation*, 1995.

Yukon Territory. Legislative Assembly. *Child Care Subsidy Regulation*, 1995.

## CHILD CARE SERVICES

### UNREGULATED CHILD CARE

#### **Unlicensed family child care**

A maximum of three children not including the provider's own children under age six is permitted.

#### **Preschools**

Programs for children aged 3 -6 years operating for less than three consecutive hours are not required to be licensed.

### REGULATED CHILD CARE

#### **Child care centres**

Group care for less than 24 hours a day for four or more children up to and including 12 years of age in a place other than a preschool, a school-age program or a family day home.

#### **School-age child care**

Care outside school hours for school-aged children up to and including 12 years.

#### **Family day homes**

Care in a private home for mixed-age groups up to a maximum of eight children (including the providers' own children under six). Four school-age children in addition to the number of preschool-age children may be included with additional adults.

## CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

None

## CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Child care regulations state that children with special needs in mainstream child care programs must be integrated to the fullest extent possible. A child is designated special needs on the assessment of a child care professional. An individual program plan must be developed for the child in consultation with staff, parents and professionals in the community, which outlines goals and objectives for the child.

There are no segregated child care programs. The Whitehorse Child Development Centre provides special needs programming and supports across the Yukon. It operates a licensed integrated preschool program for 12 children as well as unlicensed preschool programs. It provides early intervention supports and resources to families of children with special needs. It also operates a mobile outreach unit that serves every community in the territory with support and resource provision.

Funding is also available for centres and family day homes through a supported child care fund and is based on the individual need of the child. Funding may be provided for adaptive equipment, transportation, programming support and additional staff.

Parents who meet the financial eligibility criteria receive a fee subsidy for their child with special needs to attend a child care program whether or not the parent is in the paid labour force. Parents who are not eligible for a subsidy pay for the child care space but not for the additional supports.

## ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE

There are no reserves for First Nations people in the Yukon. First Nations receive the same start-up and operating grants from the Yukon government as others operating licensed child care centres and family day homes.

In total, there are 277 regulated spaces operated by First Nations in nine child care centres. There are also four Aboriginal Head Start programs. Parents who use regulated centres and family child care homes are eligible for fee subsidies.

## SPACE STATISTICS (2014)

<b>Number of regulated child care spaces</b>	
<i>Centre-based</i> (licensed capacity)	1,243
Age breakdown	Occupied spaces
Infants (up to 18 months)	80
Toddlers (18-36 months)	210
Preschool (36 months – grade 1)	418
School-age	166
Children with special needs (not included in numbers above)	47
<b>Total regulated centre-based spaces</b>	<b>1,243</b>
<i>Note: There can be a variation in actual number of used spaces due to the unit model method of funding; these numbers are estimates.</i>	
Total family child care spaces	240
<b>Total number of regulated child care spaces</b>	<b>1,483</b>
<b>Children with special needs in regulated child care</b> (estimated)	
	47
<b>Children receiving fee subsidies</b>	
	462
<b>Numbers of child care programs</b>	
<i>Centre-based</i>	
Full-day centres	34
Stand-alone after-school programs	2
<b>Total centre-based programs</b>	<b>36</b>
<i>School-based programs</i>	
For preschool-age children	1
<i>Family child care</i>	
Individual family child care providers	30
<b>Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces</b>	
Non-profit	480
For-profit	763
<b>Parent fees (2010)</b>	
Age group	Average monthly parent fees for centre-based full-time care
Infants (0-17 months)	\$739
Toddlers (18 months-3 years)	685
Preschoolers (3- 5.11 years)	649
School-age (before school/lunch/after school)	341

## STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

### REGULATED CENTRES

**Maximum centre size:** 64 spaces

#### Maximum staff/child ratios and group sizes

Age	Staff: child ratios	Max. group sizes
Up to 18 months	1:4	8
18 months- 3 years	1:6	12
3 years to 6 years	1:8	16
6 years to 12 years	1:12	24

#### Centre staff qualification requirements

20% of staff must meet exceed Child Care Worker III qualifications, an additional 30% must meet Child Care Worker II qualifications; the rest must meet Child Care Worker I qualifications.

There are three qualification levels:

- *Child Care Worker I:* 60-hour introduction to early childhood development course (ECD) or equivalent.
- *Child Care Worker II:* One year training in early childhood development (ECD) or equivalent from a recognized college or university.
- *Child Care Worker III:* Two or more years of training ECD or equivalent from a recognized college or university

### REGULATED FAMILY CHILD CARE

#### Model of organization

Individually licensed

#### Maximum capacity

Up to eight children including the provider's own pre-school but not school-aged children. There may be no more than three infants if there are three children who are preschoolers or school-age already enrolled. If there is an additional caregiver, there may be four additional school-age children.

#### Licensing, monitoring and enforcement

Family child care homes are regulated by the *Child Care Act* and family day home regulations. They receive one annual inspection and two to four unannounced spot checks per year to monitor for compliance with the regulations.

### Family child care provider qualification requirements

Caregivers must complete a 60 hour introductory early childhood development course, a specific family day home course or equivalent within the first year they provide care for children. Caregivers must be 18 years of age, have a first-aid certificate and a criminal records check.

## FUNDING

### CHILD CARE SERVICES ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

All regulated child care programs are eligible. Both non-profit and for-profit programs may receive funding.

### TYPES OF FUNDING

#### Fee subsidies

Subsidies may be used in any regulated for-profit or non-profit service. Fee subsidies are paid directly to service providers on behalf of eligible parents. Eligibility is determined through an income test. Subsidies may be used for part-time child care.

Subsidy is an entitlement for all eligible families; there is no cap on the number of subsidised spaces. To be eligible, parents must be gainfully employed, actively seeking employment, attending/preparing to attend an educational institution, undertaking medical treatment or involved in a rehabilitation program. Parents seeking employment may be eligible for part-time child care for two months. Subsidy is also available when child care is recommended by a child protection service, approved on the basis of an individual assessment of special needs of the family or child by a qualified professional, or when emergency child care services are required to meet a short-term family crisis.

There is no minimum user fee. Centre-based programs and family day care homes may surcharge subsidised parents fees above the maximum subsidy rate.

#### One time funding

Start-up funding of up to \$1,000/home in Whitehorse and up to \$2,000/home in the rest of the territory in areas underserved by licensed child care is available to family child care homes.

Start-up funding is also available to child care centres to a maximum of \$10,000 for areas underserved by licensed child care.

Enhancement Funding is available yearly to child care programs up to \$5,000 to meet regulatory requirements related to health and safety or playground development and maintenance. Enhancement Funding is available yearly to family day home programs up to \$500 for the replacement of a major appliance (up to 50% of the cost), for health and safety requirements and for outdoor play space development and maintenance.

### Recurring funding

#### Operating grants

Operating grants have three components: unit funding, training, and building costs. All regulated non-profit and for-profit child care programs receive an operating grant. Family child care homes are eligible for the unit and training components of the grant but not the building cost.

Unit funding is allocated as follows:

Age unit	Max. funding
Infant unit	One staff/4 infants = \$720/month
Toddler unit	One staff/6 toddlers = \$795/month
Preschool unit	One staff/8 preschoolers = 800/month
School-age unit	One staff/12 school-age children = \$1,010/month

#### Training funding

Training funds are allocated on hours worked, to a maximum of 40 hours per week per staff.

Level	Hourly rate
Level I	\$1.85
Level IA	3.50
Level II	4.75
Level IIA	6.95
Level III	9.00

#### Building costs

Eligible building expenses are subsidized at \$0.32 per dollar (32%).

In addition, child care centres and family day home programs receive \$14/child/month if a hot lunch program is provided.

### Other funding

The Whitehorse Child Development Centre received \$2,141,000 from the Government of Yukon to provide a range of services in regulated and unregulated child care.



PROVINCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR REGULATED  
CHILD CARE

<b>Fee subsidies</b>	\$3,077,000
<b>One time funding</b>	n/a
<b>Recurring funding</b>	
Unit funding	\$4,114,000
Supports to children with special needs	470,000
<b>Total regulated child care</b>	<b>\$7,661,000</b>
<b>Other Funding</b>	
Whitehorse Child Development Centre	\$2,141,000
Yukon College – ECD Course Funding	25,000



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# Comparative Tables

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TABLE 1

Regulated child care spaces, percent of children 0-12 years for whom there is a regulated child care space and percent of children 0-5 years for whom there is a regulated full or part-time centre-based space. Provinces/territories/Canada total 2014

P/T	Centre-based full- and part-day child care spaces for 0-5	School-age child care spaces <sup>1</sup>	Regulated family child care spaces <sup>2</sup>	Total regulated spaces 0-12	Children 0-12 for whom there is a regulated child care <sup>3</sup> space (%)	Children 0-5 for whom there is a regulated full or part-time centre <sup>4</sup> space (%)
NL <sup>5</sup>	5,638 <sup>5</sup>	957 <sup>5</sup>	605 <sup>5</sup>	7,200 <sup>5</sup>	11.2 <sup>5</sup>	18.9 <sup>5</sup>
PE	2,984	1,264	14	4,262	21.6	32.4
NS	12,862	3,693	1,344	17,899	16.1	25.5
NB	11,965	12,591	935	25,491	27.9	29.1
QC	156,367	305,743 <sup>6</sup>	94,337	556,447	50.8 <sup>6</sup>	30.3
ON	199,323 <sup>7</sup>	118,545	16,142	334,010	17.7	23.0
MB	19,846	9,632	3,053	32,531	17.6	22.9
SK	9,793	1,411	2,110	13,314	8.1	12.6
AB	62,109	25,604	11,296	99,009	15.5	20.0
BC	59,622	32,267	14,830	106,719	18.7	22.7
NT	969	503	400	1,872	24.3	26.1
NU	975	157	8	1,140	12.2	22.6
YT	708	166	240	1,483	29.6	28.3
CA	543,161	512,533	145,314	1,201,377	24.9	24.1

1 At one time, school-age child care was for 6-12 year olds. However as full day kindergarten has become more prevalent, the school-age category has changed to include four and five year olds in some provinces. Therefore the age limit is not consistent across the provinces/territories.

2 Note that regulated family child care does not necessarily use the concept of “spaces” in the same way that it is used in centre-based child care; this figure may represent enrollment, not licensed capacity.

3 This calculation uses all regulated child care spaces – centre-based and family child care.

4 The total number of all regulated spaces including regulated family child care cannot be used here as most provinces/territories cannot provide age breakdown in family child care.

5 The NL figures represent 2012 data; more recent information was not available.

6 The number of school -age spaces in Quebec was not available in 2010 and 2012; the 2008 figure was used. Using 2014 data for school-age spaces in this section means that the differences between 2014 and 2010 and 2012 are overly exaggerated and should be used cautiously.

7 This figure includes kindergarten-aged children who use centre-based child care. Although the kindergarten program in Ontario has changed in recent years, we have included kindergarten-aged children in the 0-5 category to keep numbers consistent with previous years.

TABLE 2

Comparison of selected characteristics of kindergarten and child care. Provinces/territories 2014

		Administration and legislation	Program components	Curriculum framework	Governance and funding	Workforce – minimum PSE requirements
NL	Kindergarten	<a href="#">Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Schools Act</a>	Part day for five year olds Not compulsory	<a href="#">Completely Kindergarten: Kindergarten Curriculum Guide – Interim Edition</a>	Public schools are publicly funded for K	Undergraduate degree + two year teaching certificate
	Child care	<a href="#">Department of Education and Early Childhood Development</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Child Care Services Act</a>	Centres – full, part day Family child care School-age	Curriculum framework in development	Private – Non profit and for profit operation and funding Parent fees, grants and fee subsidies	One staff per group - one year ECE certificate; infant groups: all staff – one year certificate infant care
PE	Kindergarten	<a href="#">Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture</a> Legislation: <a href="#">School Act</a>	Full day for five year olds Compulsory	<a href="#">Kindergarten Integrated Curriculum Document</a>	Public schools are publicly funded for K	Previous ECE experience; B.Ed. will be required by 2016
	Child care	<a href="#">Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Child Care Facilities Act</a>	Centres – full, part day Family child care School-age	<a href="#">PEI Early Learning Framework: Relationships, Environments, Experiences</a>	Private – Non profit and for profit operation and funding Parent fees, grants and fee subsidies	One staff per group with one year ECE diploma or Child Studies degree
NS	Kindergarten	<a href="#">Education and Early Childhood Development</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Education Act</a>	Full day for five year olds Compulsory	<a href="#">Grade Primary – Learning Outcomes Framework: Grades Primary - 6</a>	Public schools are publicly funded for K	Undergraduate degree + additional coursework
	Child care	<a href="#">Education and Early Childhood Development</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Day Care Act</a> <a href="#">Pre-Primary Education Act</a>	Centres – Full and part day Family child care School-age Child development centres	Curriculum framework in development	Private – Non profit and for profit operation and funding Parent fees, grants and fee subsidies	2/3 of staff in centre – ECE diploma, degree or deemed to be equivalent prior to May 1, 2012
NB	Kindergarten	<a href="#">Department of Education and Early Childhood Development</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Education Act</a>	Dual English/French systems Full day for five year olds Compulsory	<a href="#">K-12 Anglophone Sector Kindergarten Curriculum</a> <a href="#">K-12 Francophone Sector Kindergarten Curriculum</a>	Public schools are publicly funded for K	B.Ed.
	Child care	<a href="#">Department of Education and Early Childhood Development</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Family Services Act</a>	Dual English/French systems Centres – full and part day Family child care School-age	<a href="#">New Brunswick Curriculum Framework for Early Learning and Childcare - Le Curriculum éducatif pour la petite enfance francophone du Nouveau-Brunswick</a>	Private – Non profit and for profit operation and funding Parent fees, grants and fee subsidies	1/4 of staff in centre - one year college ECE certificate or equivalent

TABLE 2 *continued.* Comparison of selected characteristics of kindergarten and child care. Provinces/territories 2014

		Administration and legislation	Program components	Curriculum framework	Governance and funding	Workforce – minimum PSE requirements
QC	Maternelle	<a href="#">Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS)</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Education Act</a>	Full day for five year olds and some vulnerable four year olds part and full day Not compulsory	<a href="#">The Quebec Preschool Education Program</a>	Public and private schools are publicly funded for K	B.Ed. w/ specialization in pre-school and primary education + 750 hrs practice teaching
	Child care	<a href="#">Ministère de la Famille et des Aînés (MFA)</a> (note that school-age child care is under the aegis of MELS) Legislation: <a href="#">Educational Childcare Act</a>	Centres de la petite enfance Garderies (funded and unfunded) Services de garde en milieu familial (includes group family child care) Services de garde en milieu scolaire	<a href="#">Meeting Early Childhood Needs – Quebec's Educational Program for Childcare Services</a>	Private – non profit and for profit operation and funding Primarily publicly-funded (formula-based) (Parent-users of the unfunded for profit sector are reimbursed)	2/3 of staff in centre – college/university ECE. May be three year Diplôme d'études collégiales (DEC) or one year Attestation d'études collégiales + three years experience.
ON	Kindergarten	<a href="#">Ministry of Education</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Education Act</a>	Full day for four and five year olds Not compulsory	<a href="#">The Full Day Early Learning – Kindergarten Program</a>	Public schools and (public) Catholic schools are publicly funded for K	Classroom “team” – Teacher - undergraduate degree and an RECE/ minimum two year ECE diploma
	Child care	<a href="#">Ministry of Education</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Child Care and Early Years Act</a> (Note the regulations in The Day Nurseries Act are still in force)	Centres – full and part day Family (home) child care Kindergarten-age School-age	<a href="#">Early Learning for Every Child Today (ELECT) How Does Learning Happen?</a>	Public (municipal) and private – non profit and for profit operation and funding Parent fees, grants and fee subsidies	One staff per group - two year ECE diploma from approved CAAT/equivalent
MB	Kindergarten	<a href="#">Manitoba Education</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Public Schools Act</a>	Part day for five year olds, some four year olds Not compulsory	<a href="#">Manitoba Kindergarten Curriculum</a>	Public and private schools are publicly funded for K	Three or four year undergraduate degree + two year B.Ed.
	Child care	<a href="#">Manitoba Family Services – Manitoba Early Learning and Childcare</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Community Child Care Standards Act</a>	Centre-based full and part day Family child care Group family child care School-age	<a href="#">Early Returns: Manitoba's Early Learning and Childcare Curriculum</a>	Private – non profit and for profit operation and funding (limited for for profits) Parent fees, grants and subsidies	2/3 staff for 0-6 year olds and 1/2 staff for school-age must have ECE diploma or approved degree

TABLE 2 *continued.* Comparison of selected characteristics of kindergarten and child care. Provinces/territories 2014

		<b>Administration and legislation</b>	<b>Program components</b>	<b>Curriculum framework</b>	<b>Governance and funding</b>	<b>Workforce – minimum PSE requirements</b>
SK	<b>Kindergarten</b>	<a href="#">Ministry of Education</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Education Act</a>	Part day for five year olds Not compulsory	<a href="#">Saskatchewan Curriculum: Kindergarten</a>	Public and Catholic (public) schools are publicly funded for K	B.Ed.
	<b>Pre-Kindergarten</b>	<a href="#">Ministry of Education</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Education Act</a>	Targeted to vulnerable population; prioritized admittance for three and four year olds part-day Not compulsory	<a href="#">Prekindergarten, A Handbook for Administrators</a>	Publicly funded in public schools	B.Ed.
	<b>Child care</b>	<a href="#">Ministry of Education – Early Learning and Child Care Branch</a> Legislation: <a href="#">The Child Care Act</a>	Centre-based – full day Family child care School-age	<a href="#">Play and Exploration Early Learning Program Guide</a>	Private – non profit and for profit operation; for-profits not funded; several municipalities support or operate Parent fees, grants and subsidies	1/2 of all staff - one year ECE diploma
AB	<b>Kindergarten (Early Childhood Services)</b>	<a href="#">Ministry of Education</a> Legislation: <a href="#">School Act</a>	Part day for five year olds, some availability for three and four year olds Not compulsory	<a href="#">Alberta Kindergarten Curriculum</a>	Public (including charter) schools, private (non-profit) and Catholic schools are publicly funded for ECS	B.Ed. or an undergraduate degree with basic teacher preparation program (two year post-degree)
	<b>Child care</b>	<a href="#">Ministry of Human Services</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Child Care Licensing Act</a>	Centre-based – full and part day Family child care Group family child care School-age	<a href="#">Play, Participation and Possibilities</a>	Private – non profit and for profit operation and funding; several municipalities support or operate Parent fees, grants and fee subsidies	1/4 of all staff - one year ECE certificate
BC	<b>Kindergarten</b>	<a href="#">Ministry of Education</a> Legislation: <a href="#">School Act</a> <a href="#">Independent School Act</a>	Full day for five year olds Not compulsory	<a href="#">British Columbia Kindergarten Curriculum</a>	Public and independent schools are publicly funded for K	B.Ed. or Bachelor’s degree + post-graduate teacher training
	<b>Child care</b>	<a href="#">Ministry of Children and Family Development and Ministry of Health</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Community Care and Assisted Living Act 2002: Child Care Licensing Regulation</a>	Centre-based full and part day Family child care, School-age	<a href="#">British Columbia Early Learning Framework</a>	Private – non-profit and for profit operation and funding Parent fees, grants and fee subsidies	Infant/toddler groups up to 36 months: basic ECE training at approved training institution + infant/toddler training Groups 30 months to school-age: basic ECE training - one staff per group

TABLE 2 *continued*. Comparison of selected characteristics of kindergarten and child care. Provinces/territories 2014

		Administration and legislation	Program components	Curriculum framework	Governance and funding	Workforce – minimum PSE requirements
NT	Kindergarten	<a href="#">Department of Education, Culture and Employment</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Education Act</a>	Part day and full day for five year olds Not compulsory	<a href="#">The NWT Integrated Kindergarten Curriculum: A Holistic Approach to Children’s Learning</a>	Public schools are publicly funded for K	B.Ed. or undergraduate degree + one year course work in Faculty of Ed)
	Child care	<a href="#">Department of Education, Culture and Employment</a> Legislation: <a href="#">The Northwest Territories Child Day Care Act</a>	Centre-based full and part day Family child care School-age	No framework in place	Private – non profit operation and funding Parent fees, grants and fee subsidies	No training required
NU	Kindergarten	<a href="#">Department of Education</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Education Act</a>	Part day for five year olds Not compulsory	<a href="#">Kindergarten curriculum guides</a>	Public schools are publicly funded for K	B.Ed. or Kindergarten Teacher Certificate or Letter of Authority - two year ECE program, one year teacher training
	Child care	<a href="#">Department of Education</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Northwest Territories Child Day Care Act</a>	Centre-based full and part day Family child care School-age	No framework in place	Private – non profit operation and funding Parent fees, grants and fee subsidies	No training required
YT	Kindergarten	<a href="#">Department of Education</a> Legislation: <a href="#">Education Act 1990</a>	Full day for five year olds Some availability for four year olds Not compulsory	YT adapts the <a href="#">British Columbia Kindergarten Curriculum</a>	Public schools are publicly funded for K	B.Ed. or bachelor’s degree + approved teacher prep program of one academic year
	Child care	<a href="#">Ministry of Health and Social Services – Childcare Service Unit</a> Legislation: <a href="#">The Childcare Act</a>	Centre-based full and part day Family child care School-age	No framework in place	Private – non profit and for profit operation and funding Parent fees, grants and fee subsidies	1/5 of staff in centre - two year ECD training or degree/ Health and Social Services or Education + 60 hour course



TABLE 3

Median full-time monthly parent fees by age group in Canada's largest cities 2014<sup>1</sup>

PT	City	Infants (\$)	Toddlers (\$)	Pre-schoolers (\$)
NL	St. John's	1,394	n/a	868
NS	Halifax	873	825	781
QC <sup>2</sup>	Gatineau	152	152	152
	Laval			
	Montreal			
	Longueuil			
	Quebec City			
ON	Windsor	998	846	749
	London	1,139	1,042	911
	Kitchener	933	890	846
	Hamilton	1,194	955	807
	Brampton	1,302	1,016	977
	Mississauga	1,295	1,042	977
	Toronto	1,676	1,324	998
	Ottawa	1,139	990	949
MB	Winnipeg	651	451	451
SK	Saskatoon	800	700	645
AB	Calgary	1,050	936	924
	Edmonton	900	845	746
BC	Vancouver	1,215	1,215	870
	Burnaby	1,020	1,020	755
	Surrey	977	977	868

1 Source: Macdonald, D. & Friendly, M. (2014). *The parent trap: Child care fees in Canada's big cities*. Ottawa, ON: Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. This study provides fee data for full-day licensed child care centres and regulated family child care in Canada's largest cities.

2 In Quebec at the time these data were collected, fees were set at \$7/day or \$152/month by the province. Therefore, Gatineau, Laval, Montreal, Longueuil and Quebec City fees were the same.

**TABLE 4** Minimum post-secondary early childhood training requirements for staff in full time child care centres. Provinces/territories 2014

P/T	Centre directors	Centre staff
NL	Two year ECE diploma	One staff person with each group of children – one year ECE certificate All other staff included in the ratio must have at least an entry level certificate (30-60 hour course) with the exception of infant programs where the minimum qualification is a one year certificate in infant care
PE	One year ECE diploma or Child Study degree	One staff with each group of children – one year ECE diploma or university Child Study degree.
NS	Diploma or degree in ECE (or deemed to be equivalent prior to May 1, 2012)	2/3 of staff in centre – ECE diploma, degree or deemed to be equivalent prior to May 1, 2012. All staff who hold a classification must complete 30 hours of professional development every three years. All staff who do not hold a classification must complete the Orientation for Staff Working in Licensed Child Care Facilities
NB	One year community college ECE	1/4 of staff in the centre – one year community college ECE certificate or equivalent
QC	Not specified	2/3 of staff in the centre – college/university ECE. May be three year Diplôme d'études collégiales (DEC) or one year Attestation d'études collégiales + three years experience
ON	Two year diploma in ECE at approved/ equivalent CAAT, at least two years experience in the field and registration with the College of Early Childhood Educators of Ontario.	One staff person with each group of children – two year ECE diploma from an approved CAAT/equivalent and registration with the College of Early Childhood Educators of Ontario
MB	Approved degree from a recognized university in ECE or an approved diploma in ECE plus a recognized certificate program.	2/3 of staff for 0-6 year olds and 1/2 of staff for school-age – ECE diploma or an approved degree or Competency Based Assessment
SK	Two year ECE diploma <sup>1</sup>	1/2 of all staff – one year ECE certificate All staff – 120 hour child care orientation course
AB	Two year ECE diploma	1/4 of staff – one year Child Development Worker certificate All staff – orientation course or equivalent ECE-related course work (45 hours)
BC	Not specified	One staff per infant/toddler groups (up to 36 months) – basic ECE training (900 hrs) at an approved training institution as well as an additional infant/toddler educator with specialized post-basic training (200 hours) per group With groups 30 months to school-age, one staff per group – basic ECE training
NT	No training required	No training required
NU	No training required	No training required
YT	Not specified	1/5 of staff in the centre – two year ECD training or degree in Health and Social Services or Education plus a 60 hour course. Additional 1/3 of staff – one year ECD training. All others – 60 hour course

1 Directors appointed to a centre director position prior to July 2001 require a one year certificate or equivalent but must upgrade to a two year diploma if they accept employment with another centre.

**TABLE 5****Regulated family child care: Required ECE training and administrative model.  
Provinces/territories 2014**

<b>P/T</b>	<b>Required ECE training</b>	<b>Agency model or individually licensed providers</b>
<b>NL</b>	Minimum course ( 30 hours every three years)	Both agency model and individual license
<b>PE</b>	Minimum course (30 hours)	Individual license
<b>NS</b>	Minimum course—Level 1/Canadian Child Care Federation family day care training	Agency model
<b>NB</b>	None	Individually approved
<b>QC</b>	Minimum course ( 45 hours + six hours each year)	Agency model, includes group family child care
<b>ON</b>	None	Agency model
<b>MB</b>	Minimum course (40 hours/community college)	Individual license, includes group family child care
<b>SK</b>	Minimum course (40 hours )	Individual license
<b>AB</b>	Not specified – Agencies must develop appropriate training in described areas. Group family child care - Minimum course (45 hours)	Agency model (contracted and approved, not licensed) and licensed group family child care homes
<b>BC</b>	Minimum course ( 20 hours)	Individual license
<b>NT</b>	None	Individual license
<b>NU</b>	None	Individual license
<b>YT</b>	Minimum course (60 hours, family day home course or equivalent)	Individual license

TABLE 6

Number of children 0-12 years (rounded estimates in 1000s)<sup>1</sup>. Provinces/territories/Canada total 1992-2014

P/T	1992		1995		1998		2001		2003		2005		2007		2009		2012		2014	
	0-5	6-12	0-5	6-12	0-5	6-12	0-5	6-12	0-5	6-12	0-5	6-12	0-5	6-12	0-5	6-12	0-5	6-12	0-5	6-12
NL	45	63	41	57	34	52	30	46	31	41	29	39	28	37	28	36	30	34	28	37
PE	12	14	11	14	10	14	10	13	9	13	8	12	9	12	8	11	8	11	9	11
NS	74	86	70	86	64	89	61	80	55	77	51	75	49	69	53	65	54	61	50	61
NB	57	72	56	70	51	68	49	63	46	63	44	58	40	56	44	52	44	51	41	50
QC	502	655	565	627	527	646	460	656	443	634	435	604	468	554	455	560	513	560	516	579
ON	848	964	899	1,024	875	1,098	844	1,100	832	1,097	822	1,097	812	1,071	828	1,032	846	1,047	868	1,011
MB	98	111	92	106	87	108	79	107	76	104	77	102	78	97	77	98	89	98	87	98
SK	94	112	85	107	77	106	76	93	69	91	67	81	64	81	71	80	77	84	77	86
AB	250	279	242	289	231	301	233	289	218	298	228	284	246	295	260	299	291	307	308	329
BC	266	312	286	338	289	351	248	353	255	329	233	341	244	324	257	314	268	302	262	309
NT <sup>2</sup>	9	8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	4
NU <sup>2</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	5	5	4	5
YT <sup>2</sup>	2	3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	3	3
CA <sup>3</sup>	2,257	2,680	2,347	2,719	2,245	2,832	2,090	2,801	2,048	2,764	2,004	2,705	2,049	2,608	2,093	2,558	2,230	2,566	2,257	2,581

1 Further age breakdowns will be available in each provincial/territorial chapter of *ECEC in Canada 2014* and in [previous editions of ECEC in Canada](#).

2 Figures for the territories were not included until 2003.

3 Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**TABLE 7** Number of children 0-12 years with employed mothers. Provinces/territories/ Canada total 1992-2014<sup>1</sup> (rounded estimate in 1000s)<sup>2</sup>

P/T	1992		1995		1998		2001		2003		2005		2007		2009		2012		2014	
	0-5	6-12	0-5	6-12	0-5	6-12	0-5	6-12	0-5	6-12	0-5	6-12	0-5	6-12	0-5	6-12	0-5	6-12	0-5	6-12
NL	26	33	22	33	19	30	18	31	17	25	15	23	16	23	15	23	17	22	16	24
PE	8	9	8	10	8	11	7	10	6	10	6	9	6	8	6	8	6	8	7	8
NS	44	49	40	53	38	59	40	57	35	51	33	51	30	47	32	44	34	41	32	42
NB	33	38	30	43	31	44	32	45	28	41	28	39	26	39	30	37	27	35	26	34
QC	315	305	325	400	325	424	304	469	286	424	291	409	320	395	305	389	356	391	358	418
ON	539	556	539	711	546	774	538	787	495	730	508	742	504	725	500	688	524	694	530	671
MB	51	59	55	76	54	79	49	79	46	72	45	70	47	67	42	63	49	63	49	62
SK	59	67	55	80	47	77	47	66	43	64	41	57	39	57	45	58	47	57	50	61
AB	149	158	154	211	138	207	135	206	118	198	127	187	140	202	141	198	160	199	137	238
BC	154	182	162	245	168	234	147	241	148	210	139	223	144	215	151	200	151	201	161	203
NT <sup>3</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.4	3.2	2.3	3	2.6	3	2.1	2.5	2.2	2.8	2.4	2.7
NU <sup>3</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.6	2.2	1.7	2.5
YT <sup>3</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.9	1.8	1.1	1.8	1.1	1.6	1.3	1.6	1.5	1.8	1.7	2
CA <sup>4</sup>	1,378	1,456	1,390	1,862	1,375	1,939	1,317	1,991	1,224	1,829	1,236	1,815	1,275	1,783	1,268	1,711	1,376	1,720	1,370	1,768

1 These data were reported in previous versions of ECEC in Canada as “Children 0-12 Years with Mothers in the Paid Labour Force”. The current report uses the term “employed mothers”; it is comparable to the data labelled “Children 0-12 Years with Mothers in the Paid Labour Force” in all previous versions of this report. The earlier term was ambiguous; it could be interpreted as either mothers in the labour force (not all of whom are paid) or only those in the labour force who are paid (technically the same as “employed”).

2 Further age breakdowns will be available in each provincial/territorial chapter of *ECEC in Canada 2014* and in previous editions of [ECEC in Canada](#).

3 Canada total figures did not include NT or YT until 2003, while figures for NU were not included until 2012.

4 Totals may not add up due to rounding.

TABLE 8

Employment rate of mothers by age of youngest child (% , rounded estimate). Provinces/territories/Canada total 1998-2014

P/T	1998 (%)			2001(%)			2003(%)			2005(%)			2007(%)			2009 (%)			2012 (%)			2014 (%)		
	0-2 yrs	3-5 yrs	6-15 yrs	0-2 yrs	3-5 yrs	6-15 yrs	0-2 yrs	3-5 yrs	6-15 yrs	0-2 yrs	3-5 yrs	6-15 yrs	0-2 yrs	3-5 yrs	6-15 yrs	0-2 yrs	3-5 yrs	6-15 yrs	0-2 yrs	3-5 yrs	6-15 yrs	0-2 yrs	3-5 yrs	6-15 yrs
NL	58	63	64	64	66	74	71	67	78	66	71	77	66	74	80	68	73	83	68	78	83	70	69	81
PE	81	83	83	77	79	85	78	82	87	81	84	87	78	85	86	76	83	88	78	82	88	85	85	88
NS	63	70	73	71	72	78	71	77	81	76	77	82	70	78	83	68	83	84	74	77	86	75	78	86
NB	64	69	74	67	74	79	70	75	79	71	80	82	76	77	83	76	81	84	73	80	84	71	81	86
QC	65	67	75	67	75	79	73	77	83	74	79	83	74	80	85	73	78	86	77	81	86	77	82	86
ON	65	72	79	67	74	82	68	74	83	69	76	84	68	79	84	69	75	83	71	75	83	70	77	81
MB	62	76	83	66	75	86	68	77	86	64	76	85	66	76	88	62	71	86	66	74	85	65	74	82
SK	65	73	84	65	74	82	67	77	86	67	77	87	69	77	87	70	77	89	65	80	85	71	76	84
AB	64	71	84	60	71	84	59	71	86	63	69	81	61	73	84	63	70	86	60	73	84	60	72	79
BC	62	67	77	63	69	77	67	74	79	64	76	79	65	71	81	66	75	80	64	75	82	70	76	80
NT <sup>1</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	64	75	84	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
NU <sup>1</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	51	69	73	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
YT <sup>1</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	74	81	92	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
CA	65	71	78	66	73	81	69	75	82	69	76	83	69	77	84	69	75	84	70	77	84	70	77	82

<sup>1</sup> Territorial information for 1995, 1998, 2003 and 2005 was not available. Territorial information for 2007, 2009, 2012 and 2014 is available but due to the use of different age categories, the information is not equivalent to other provinces so is not included here.

TABLE 9

Total number of regulated child care spaces. Provinces/territories/Canada total 1992-2014<sup>1</sup>

P/T	1992	1995	1998	2001	2004	2006	2007	2008	2010	2012	2014
NL <sup>2</sup>	3,568	4,202	4,275	4,226	4,921	5,642	5,868	5,972	6,200	7,200	7,200 <sup>2</sup>
PE <sup>3</sup>	4,123	3,888	3,717	4,270	4,100	4,051	4,293	4,424	5,084	4,051	4,262
NS	10,826	10,645	11,163	11,464	12,759	12,982	13,247	13,711	15,295	17,321	17,899
NB	7,162	7,952	9,204	11,086	11,897	13,163	14,170	15,506	18,785	21,695	25,491
QC <sup>4</sup>	78,388	111,452	175,002	234,905	321,732	361,533	364,572	368,909	379,386	401,568	556,447 <sup>5</sup>
ON	145,545	147,853	167,090 <sup>6</sup>	173,135 <sup>6</sup>	206,743	229,875	242,488	256,748	276,410	292,997	334,010
MB	18,977	18,846	20,490	23,022	25,634	25,984	26,375	27,189	29,382	30,614	32,531
SK	6,418	7,266	7,124	7,166	7,910	8,712	8,850	9,173	10,848	12,275	13,314
AB	51,656	51,088	47,033	47,693	63,351 (46,238) <sup>7</sup>	66,288 (47,587) <sup>7</sup>	71,177 (52,528) <sup>7</sup>	73,981 (54,499) <sup>7</sup>	82,050 (62,980) <sup>7</sup>	91,884 (69,610) <sup>7</sup>	99,009
BC	42,927	59,794	68,978	72,949	80,230	79,190	82,386	87,538	97,170	102,908	106,719
NT	963	1,286	1,351	1,234	1,219	1,525	1,703	1,768	1,785	n/a	1,872
NU	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	932	1,014	987	970	1,013	1,015	1,104	1,140
YT	1,020	1,060	1,307	1,348	1,369	1,330	1,293	1,262	1,431	1,440	1,483
CA	371,573	425,332	516,734	593,430	745,925	811,262	837,392	867,194	921,841	986,842	1,201,377 <sup>8</sup>

1 These figures include full day and part day (nursery schools or preschools) centres for children under compulsory school-age, regulated family child care and school-age centre-based care. In most cases, these figures represent licensed capacity, not enrolment. Refer to provincial/territorial sections for further information.

2 As figures for NL were not available in 2014, 2012 figures were used in this table.

3 Publicly-funded kindergarten was part of the regulated child care system in PEI between 2000 and September 2010. For the purpose of comparison with other provinces, part day kindergarten spaces in child care centres were not then been included in these space figures, so 2012 figures are not directly comparable to earlier figures.

4 Quebec's figures for 2014 include school-age spaces under the Ministry of Education.

5 Quebec school-age space figures were available in 2006 and 2008 but not in 2010 or 2012. Therefore the 2008 school-age space figure was used in these calculations. Thus Quebec total figures for 2014 are not directly comparable to 2010 or 2012.

6 Ontario's figures for total regulated spaces may not be comparable from year to year. In some earlier years, Ontario was not able to determine whether regulated family child care spaces were or were not included in total regulated spaces.

7 School-age child care in Alberta became regulated for the first time in 2004. For purpose of comparison with previous years, the 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010 and 2012 figures include total number of spaces with and without school-age care.

8 As footnote 5 describes, Quebec's figures for 2014 are not directly comparable to 2010 and 2012 as accurate data for school-aged spaces (which represent a substantial sector in Quebec) were unavailable. This also affected the totals for Canada as a whole in 2010 and 2012.

TABLE 10

Total allocations for regulated child care (in unadjusted dollars rounded). Provinces/territories/Canada total 1995 – 2014

P/T	1995 (\$)	1998 (\$)	2001 (\$)	2003/04 (\$)	2005/06 (\$)	2007/08 (\$)	2009/10 (\$)	2011/12 (\$)	2013/14 (\$)
NL	2,980,000	3,300,000	7,753,000	9,636,000	12,322,000 <sup>1</sup>	19,844,000	20,523,000	21,224,505	21,224,505 <sup>2</sup>
PE <sup>3</sup>	1,683,000	2,578,000	4,230,000	4,682,000	4,725,000	6,227,000	6,432,000	12,471,400	12,120,000
NS	11,844,000	15,685,000	12,892,000	19,768,000	23,695,000	37,150,000	39,033,000	43,221,873	43,416,432
NB	3,200,000	5,523,000	11,823,000	13,900,000	22,475,000	26,236,000	28,936,000	35,000,000	38,840,679
QC	203,695,000	299,860,000	1,092,428,000	1,560,000,000	1,678,879,000	1,730,574,000	1,998,720,000 <sup>4</sup>	1,998,720,000 <sup>4</sup>	2,485,409,100
ON	541,800,000	470,500,000	451,500,000	497,400,000	(534,100,000) <sup>5</sup> 830,100,000	780,400,000 <sup>5</sup>	801,800,000 <sup>5</sup>	865,100,000	960,100,000
MB	45,204,000	45,189,000	62,876,400	73,004,000	86,327,000	105,983,000	116,551,000	134,345,200	143,388,000
SK	12,714,000	15,746,000	16,388,000	19,639,000	22,773,000	47,134,000	53,716,000	62,653,151	64,837,278
AB	67,623,000	54,297,000	57,500,000	53,600,000	72,470,000	105,733,000	190,627,000	257,552,856	263,089,000
BC <sup>6</sup>	98,681,000	128,865,000	164,563,000	140,725,000	176,108,000	216,740,000	227,514,000	227,151,000	227,433,000
NT	1,708,000	2,271,000	1,602,000	2,542,000	2,542,000	2,542,000	2,542,000	2,542,000 <sup>7</sup>	4,315,311
NU	n/a	n/a	1,865,000	1,786,000	2,315,000	2,470,000	2,775,000	3,027,000	3,438,000
YT	4,148,000	4,764,000	4,440,000	5,197,000	5,409,000	6,409,000	7,359,000	7,661,000	7,661,000
CA	995,279,000	1,048,579,000	1,889,804,000	2,401,879,000	2,940,140,000	3,087,443,000	3,496,528,000	3,670,669,985	4,275,272,305

1 This is an estimated expenditure provided by provincial officials.

2 As figures for NL were not available in 2014, the 2012 figures are used in the 2014 column in this table.

3 Between 2000 and September 2010, PEI's kindergartens were part of the child care system. For the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions, this calculation does not include PEI's spending on part-day kindergarten between 2000 and 2010.

4 These figures include spending on school-age child care from 2008; this information was not available for 2010 and 2012.

5 Ontario's total allocation identified in ECEC in Canada 2006 did not include \$296 million in the form of grants provided to municipalities under Best Start to support child care capital expansion and operating costs. Municipalities were to spend the funds for capital, fee subsidies, special needs resourcing, wage subsidies and wage improvement but information was not available to identify how or in what year these funds were spent. These funds have been added to the previous total in this table; the previous total

allocation figure is in parentheses. Note that the 2007/08 and 2009/10 total allocations include a similar fund.

6 Subsidies in British Columbia may be used in both regulated and unregulated care. At one time, no breakdown was available. At the suggestion of provincial officials, these figures were estimated using 60% of the subsidy allocation in 1992, 55% in 1995, and 50% in 1998 – 2007/08.

7 As figures for NT were not available in 2012, the 2010 figures were used in this table for 2012.



TABLE 11

Allocation in unadjusted dollars for each regulated child care space<sup>1</sup>. Provinces/territories/Canada total 1992 – 2014

P/T	1992 (\$)	1995 (\$)	1998 (\$)	2001 (\$)	2003/04 (\$)	2005/06 (\$)	2007/08 (\$)	2009/10 (\$)	2011/12 (\$)	2013/14 (\$)
NL <sup>2</sup>	468	709	772	1,835	1,958	2,183	3,323	3,310	2,948	2,948 <sup>2</sup>
PE	671	433	694	1,334 <sup>3</sup>	1,137 <sup>3</sup>	1,166 <sup>3</sup>	1,407 <sup>3</sup>	1,265 <sup>3</sup>	3,078	2,843
NS	1,055	1,113	1,405	1,125	1,549	1,825	2,710	2,552	2,495	2,425
NB	509	402	600	1,066	1,168	1,707	1,692	1,540	1,613	1,523
QC <sup>4</sup>	1,795	1,828	1,713	4,651	4,849	4,644	4,691	5,268	4,977	4,466
ON	2,887	3,664	2,816	2,608	2,406	3,611 <sup>5</sup> (2,323)	3,040 <sup>5</sup>	2,901 <sup>5</sup>	2,952	2,874
MB	2,221	2,399	2,205	2,731	2,848	3,322	3,898	3,967	4,388	4,407
SK	1,918	1,750	2,210	2,279	2,483	2,614	5,138	4,952	5,104	4,870
AB	1,290	1,324	1,154	1,206	846	1,093	1,429	2,323	2,803	2,657
BC	1,300	1,650	1,868	2,256	1,754	2,224	2,476	2,341	2,207	2,131
NT	2,374	1,328	1,681	1,298	2,085	1,666	1,438	1,424	n/a	2,305
NU	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	2,001	1,091	2,345	2,438	2,733	2,742	3,015
YT	2,390	3,914	3,645	4,086	3,796	4,067	5,079	5,143	5,320	5,165
CA	2,051	2,340	2,029	3,185	3,223	3,259	3,560	3,792	3,719	3,558

1 These figures are based on total provincial allocations and total number of regulated child care spaces, therefore are only rough approximations of actual allocation per space.

2 As figures for NL were not available in 2014, 2012 figures were used in this table.

3 2001, 2003/04, 2005/06, 2007/08 and 2009/10 figures for PEI do not include part-day kindergarten expenditure in child care centres or spaces for the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions.

4 Quebec figures include expenditure on school-age programs under the Ministry of Education. Note that Quebec figures for 2014 are not directly comparable to 2010 and 2012 as accurate data about school-age were unavailable.

5 Ontario's total allocation in 2005/06 in [ECCEC in Canada 2006](#) did not include \$296 million in the form of grants provided to municipalities under Best Start to support child care capital expansion and operating costs. Municipalities were to spend the funds for capital, fee subsidies, special needs resourcing, wage subsidies and wage improvement. Information was not available to identify how or in what year these funds were spent. These funds have been added to the 2005/06 total, thus increasing the allocation per space in this table. The previous total allocation figure is in parentheses. Note that the 2007/08 and 2009/10 allocations include a similar fund.

**TABLE 12****Percent of children 0-5 years for whom there is a regulated full or part-time centre-based child care space 1992 - 2014**

P/T	1992 (%)	1995 (%)	1998 (%)	2001 (%)	2004 (%)	2006 (%)	2008 (%)	2010 (%)	2012 (%)	2014 (%)
NL	7.0	9.0	10.8	11.9	13.1	16.5	17.3	17.9	18.9	18.9 <sup>1</sup>
PE <sup>2</sup>	29.9	29.4	31.0	38.1	38.2	42.2	41.0	41.6	46.5 <sup>3</sup>	32.4
NS	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	25.2	22.1	22.6	23.9	25.5
NB	n/a	n/a	n/a	11.9	n/a	18.1 <sup>4</sup>	19.9	21.1	30.7 <sup>3</sup>	29.1
QC <sup>5</sup>	9.2	9.4	11.5	16.8	22.0	25.6	25.0	28.5	36.3 <sup>3</sup>	30.3
ON	12.4	n/a	12.4 (est.)	14.0 (est.)	14.9	16.9	19.6	19.7	20.8	23.0
MB	12.5	13.6	15.0	17.9	20.2	20.0	20.6	22.8	20.5	22.9
SK <sup>5</sup>	3.6	4.4	5.2	5.4	6.7	8.1	9.1	10.5	11.5	12.6
AB	17.5	17.9	17.5	17.6	18.9	17.9	17.4	19.8	19.8	20.0
BC	9.9	11.0	12.2	14.6	15.6	17.1	18.3	19.8	23.7 <sup>3</sup>	22.7
NT	10.2	n/a	n/a	n/a	18.7	21.0	23.3	22.9	n/a	26.1
NU	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	22.8	20.5	20.2	20.5	20.8	22.6
YT <sup>5</sup>	25.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	35.9	26.4	28.3	27.8	28.6	28.3
CA	11.5	11.5	12.6	14.9	17.1	19.1	20.3	21.8	22.5	24.1

1 Figures for NL were not available in 2014, the 2012 figures were used in this table for 2014.

2 PEI introduced publicly-funded part-day kindergarten in September 2000. At that time, kindergarten in PEI was still part of the regulated child care system, as it was before 2000. In September 2010 kindergarten moved to the public education system. For the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions where kindergarten is under the public education system, the number of children attending part-day kindergarten only have not been included in totals. Therefore, PEI's figures for 2001, 2004, and 2006, 2008 and 2010 are not comparable to those of previous years.

3 This number was calculated for children 0-4 years old so 2012 figures are not directly comparable to earlier figures. 5 year olds are included in school-age child care spaces and attend full-day kindergarten in the public education system.

4 In [ECEC in Canada 2006](#), this figure was reported in error as 29.4%, due to the inclusion of school-age spaces. This has now been corrected by using a provincial estimate.

5 Nursery schools (part-time) are not regulated in Quebec, Saskatchewan and the Yukon Territory, so are not included in these figures.

**TABLE 13**

**Percent of regulated centre-based spaces for children 0-12 years that are for profit. Provinces/territories/Canada total 1992-2014**

P/T	1992 (%)	1995 (%)	1998 (%)	2001 (%)	2004 (%)	2006 (%)	2008 (%)	2010 (%)	2012 (%)	2014 (%)
NL	78	66	61	64	73	69	70	72	65	65 <sup>1</sup>
PE	35	32	42	46	70 <sup>2</sup>	56 <sup>2</sup>	58 <sup>2</sup>	58 <sup>2</sup>	80	64
NS	40	40	43	43	45	46	50	52	53	55
NB	43	40	n/a	n/a	70 <sup>3</sup>	64 <sup>3</sup>	67 <sup>3</sup>	62 <sup>3</sup>	62 <sup>3</sup>	63
QC <sup>4</sup>	18	18	14	14	12	13	14	17	22	19
ON	24	20	17	17	22	23	24	25	25	24
MB	10	12	13	8	8	6	5	5	5	5
SK	6	2	1	1	0	0.6	0	0	0.5	0.6
AB	65	62	59	56	54	49	51	50	51	53
BC	39	39	40	42	n/a <sup>5</sup>	n/a <sup>5</sup>	42	43	44	47
NT	18	8	3	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	0
NU	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
YT	14	25	26	27	26	31	36	44	64	61
CA	30	28	24	23	20 <sup>6</sup>	21 <sup>6</sup>	25	28	29.4	30

1 Information for 2014 was not available, the 2012 figures were used in this table for 2014.

2 For the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions where kindergarten is in the public education system, these figures do not include part day kindergarten. As of September 2010, kindergarten moved to the education system.

3 Percentage estimate provided by provincial officials. See NEW BRUNSWICK section of [ECEC in Canada 2012](#) for details.

4 Quebec's figures have been calculated including school-age child care spaces under the aegis of the Ministry of Education. These are all public/not-for-profit. Note that the figures used for school-age spaces for 2010 and 2012 were out of date (2008), so QC 2010 and 2012 percentages in this table are not directly comparable to 2014.

5 Information not available.

6 Canada total percent for 2004 and 2006 did not include British Columbia or New Brunswick, where relevant data were not available at the time. These had substantial for-profit child care sectors.

