space statistics 2007

Early childhood education and care in Canada



The Childcare Resource and Research Unit (CRRU) is a policy research institute that focuses on early childhood education and care (ECEC) and family policy. CRRU has a commitment to a universal, high quality, publicly-funded, inclusive ECEC system and works with researchers, NGOs, advocacy groups and policy makers. CRRU's basic operating premise is that public policy should be based on the best possible information about best practices in policy and practice that are available.

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About this document...

Early childhood education and care in Canada, a compilation of cross-Canada data on child care, kindergarten and other key information, has been published about every two years since the early 1990s (1992, 1995, 1998, 2001, 2004, 2006). The publications are available in print and versions from 1998 onwards are available for download on the Childcare Resource and Research Unit website at www. childcarecanada.org. The availability of these longitudinal and cross-Canada data collected in a consistent format has made it possible to identify trends and reflect on similarities and differences in ECEC within Canada.

This report, *Child care space statistics* 2007, represents the first time since ECEC in Canada began that early childhood education and data have been collected and published in an interim year. Note that this report includes only data on regulated child care spaces. For the most recent ECEC data compiled on topics such as financing and regulation in child care and kindergarten as well as 2005-2006 demographic information, refer to Early childhood education and care in Canada 2006. The "snapshot" date for the data in this document is March 31 2007 wherever possible.

The next full version of *Early childhood education and care in Canada*, presenting data from 2007 and 2008, will be published by the Childcare Resource and Research Unit in the summer of 2009.

Data for this publication have been supplied by provincial /territorial officials whose contributions are appreciatively acknowledged. Funds for the work were provided by Human Resources and Social Development Canada.

Summary

- There were 837,923 regulated child care spaces in Canada in 2007.
- This represents an increase of 26,661 spaces since 2006, the smallest increase in regulated child care in some years. In comparison, between 2004 and 2006, supply grew by 65,337 (an average of 32,668 in each year) and by 152,493 between 2001 and 2004 (an average of 50,831 a year for each of those three years).
- Since 2006, there has been limited change in the number of regulated child care spaces in most provinces/territories, with expansion in Quebec slowing sharply.
- In 2007, 83% of total regulated child care spaces for children aged 0-12 were centre-based; of the 837,923 spaces, 697,242 were in centres with the remainder 141,581 in regulated family child care. Saskatchewan and Quebec have the most family child care 26% of total spaces in Saskatchewan and 24% in Quebec are in regulated family child care homes.
- In 2007, 57% or 398,197 of centre-based spaces were for children aged 0-5 while 43% or 299,289 spaces were for school-aged children. Quebec has more than 160,000 school-aged spaces which include children aged 4-12 years.
- In 2007, 80% of centre-based child care spaces were not-for-profit (including publicly-delivered child care in Ontario and Quebec), a slight increase from 79% in 2006.

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Number of regulated child care spaces

Centre-based	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Infant (0-24 months)	60	-	60
Preschool (24 months-school entry)	4,105	647	4,752
School-age	-	700	700
Total centre-based spaces	4,165	1,347	5,512
Family child care spaces			356
Agency approved			272
Individually licensed			84
Total number of regulated child care spaces			5,868

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 311 children with special needs received a fee subsidy.

There are also 50 children with special needs at Daybreak Parent/Child Centre which receives core funding.

Children receiving fee subsidies

Number of centres and homes

Number of child care centres	167
Full day	117
Part-day nursery schools/preschools	29
Stand-alone after-school programs	21
Number of family child care agencies	2
Number of family child care providers	61

Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces

Non-profit	1,632
For-profit	3,880
Total	5,512

1,952

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Number of regulated child care spaces

Centre-based	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Infant (0-24 months)	161	0	161
Preschool (2-4 years)	2,646		2,546 *
Kindergarten	754	531	1,285
School-age (6-12 years)	-	797	797
Total centre-based spaces	3,461	1,328	4,789

^{*} Breakdown of full-day and part-day preschool spaces is not available

Note: There is a total of 1,285 children attending kindergarten, 531 who attend part-time kindergarten only and 754 who attend both kindergarten and child care for the balance of the day.

Note: For the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions where kindergarten is in the public of the purpose of the day kindergarten change are explicitly the figures in Table 1.

education system, the part-day kindergarten spaces are excluded from the figures	,
Family child care spaces	35
Total number of regulated child care spaces	4,824
Children with special needs in regulated child care	235
Children receiving fee subsidies	1547
Number of centres and homes	
Number of child care centres	136
Full day	77
Part-day nursery schools/preschools	1
Kindergarten centres	34
Stand-alone after-school programs	24
Number of family child care providers	5
Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces	
Non-profit	2,003
For-profit	2,821
Total	4,824

Note: For the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions where kindergarten is in the public education system, the part-day kindergarten spaces are excluded from the figures in Table 1.

NOVA SCOTIA

Number of regulated child care spaces

Centre-based	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Total centre-based spaces *	10,505	2,594	13,099
* Breakdown of spaces by age groups is not available			
Family child care spaces			148
Total number of regulated child care spaces			13,247

Children with special needs in regulated child care

490

Note: All children with special needs attending child care programs may not be captured in this number.

Children receiving fee subsidies

2,798

Note: There are 3,045 subsidized child care spaces. Of these, 2,267 spaces are allocated to specific non-profit centres. There are also 778 portable spaces may be used in both for-profit or non-profit centres and follow the child.

Number of centres and homes

Number of child care centres	386
Full day	245
Part-day nursery schools/preschools	130
Stand-alone after-school programs	11
Number of family child care agencies	3
Number of family child care providers	37

Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces

Non-profit	7,052
For-profit	6,047
Total	13,099

NEW BRUNSWICK

Number of regulated child care spaces

Centre-based	13,882
Family child care spaces	288
Total number of regulated child care spaces	14,170

Note: 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 allocates per age category is collected through the Quality Improvement Funding Support (QIFS) Program's application process.

Enrolled centre-based spaces	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Infants (0-2 years)	607	155	762
Preschool (2-4 years)	4,206	2,890	7,096
School age (5-11 years)		6,516	6,516
Total enrolled centre-based spaces	4,813	9,561	14,374

Note: The number of enrolled spaces by age group is reported through the Quality Improvement Funding Support (QIFS) which does not include all centres. 425 of licensed facilities were included.

Family child care	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Infants (0-2 years)	49	7	56
Preschool (2-4 years)	165	68	233
School age (5-11 years)		145	145
Total enrolled family child care spaces	214	220	434
Total number of regulated enrolled spaces			14,808

Children with special needs in regulated child care

344

In addition 31 school age children were supported through the Support Worker Program. *Note: This figure represents the number of children receiving Integrated Day Care Services as of March 31, 2007.*

Children receiving fee subsidies

Children receiving subsidies in regulated care	3,530
Number of centres and homes	
Number of child care centres	384
Full day	276
Part-day nursery schools/preschools	41 *
Unknown	11
Stand-alone after-school programs	103
Combined nursery school/school-age programs	120 *
Number of family child care providers	47

^{*} The part-day nursery schools and combined/nursery school figures are estimates as the data are not entered to identify part-time. In addition, there are 11 facilities that did not apply for the QIFS Program and information on the part-day/full-day nature of their operations is not available.

Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces

Approximately 34% are non-profit and 66% are for-profit.

Note: Data on auspice are not available. These estimates were provided by provincial officials.

QUEBEC

Number of regulated child care spaces

Centre-based	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Infants (under 18 months)	12,195	0	12,195
Preschool (18 months - 4 years)	102,304	0	102,304
School age (4-12 years)		161,428	
Total centre-based spaces	114,499	161,428	275,927

Note: A figure for school-age spaces was not available. In 2006, we calculated an estimate based on the ECEC in Canada 2004 figure of 141,977 school-age spaces. It was expanded using the same percentage increase as the increase in total centre-based spaces for children aged 0-4 from 2004-2006 – 13.7%. This figure – 161,428 – is used again here.

Note: School-age child care for children aged 4-12 is the responsibility of the Ministry of Education.

Family child care spaces

88,645

Total number of regulated child care spaces

364,572

Note: This figure includes 0-4 child care regulated by the Ministère de la Famille, des Aînés et de la Condition féminine and school-age spaces under the aegis of the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport.

Children with special needs in regulated child care

3,587

Number of centres and homes

Number of CPEs	984
Number of centres that are part of CPEs	1331
Number of garderies	655
Number of garderies - subsidized	552
Number of garderies - unsubsidized	103
Number of school-age services	1,561
Number of family child care components	165
(Bureaux coordonateurs de la garde en milieu familial)	
Number of family child care providers	14,431

Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces

Non-profit (CPE and school-age)	237,362
For-profit and other non-CPE centres (garderies)	38,565
Total	275,927

Note: The majority of garderies are for-profit.

ONTARIO

Number of regulated child care spaces

Centre-based	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Infants (0- 18 months)	7,289	-	7,289
Toddlers (18-30 months)	23,162	-	23,162
Preschool (2.5-5 years)	96,019	-	96,019
JK (3 years 8 months)	12,995	-	12,995
SK (4 years 8 months)	9,664	-	9,664
School age (6-12 years)	-	74,912	74,912
Total centre-based spaces	149,129	74,912	224,041

Note: Breakdowns of full-day and part-day centre-based child care are not available by age. Capacity in nursery school (part-day) is not available.

Family child care spaces 19,447

Note: This figure represents the enrolment in family child care. Licensed capacity is not available because it fluctuates according to the ages of the children being served.

Total number of regulated child care spaces 243,488

Children receiving special needs resourcing in regulated child care

An average monthly total of 12,708 children were served throughout the fiscal year.

Note: In previous reports, Ontario figures for the number of children receiving special needs resourcing represented cumulative totals throughout the year; therefore figures are not comparable to previous years.

Children receiving fee subsidies

Regular fee subsidies	67,384
Ontario Works subsidies in regulated child care	9,575
Total	76,959

Note: These figures represent the average monthly total for the fiscal year. In previous reports, Ontario figures for the number of children receiving fee subsidies represented cumulative totals throughout the year; therefore figures are not comparable to previous years.

An additional 2,745 children received Ontario Works subsidies for unregulated care.

Number of centres and homes

Number of child care centres	4,480
Full day	3,869
Part-day nursery schools/preschools	1,599
Stand-alone school-age programs	1,293
Number of family child care agencies	140
Number of family child care providers	7,524

Note: Child care centres may be licensed to offer more than one program (e.g., a before-and-after school program for school-age children and a full-day program for preschool-age children). As a result, a centre may be double-counted in more than one category above.

Sponsorship of regulated spaces

	Centre-based	Agencies	Homes
Non-profit	172,472	123	6,958
For-profit	51,569	17	566
Total	224,041	140	7,524

Note: This includes municipally-operated centres. Current figures are not available for the number of municipally-operated child care spaces. In 1998, however, 18,143 of the non-profit spaces were municipal. This includes municipally-operated family child care agencies and homes.

MANITOBA

Number of regulated child care spaces			
Centre-based	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Infants (0- 2 years)	1,488	12	1,500
Preschool (2-6 years)	10,333	3,840	14,173
School-age	-	6,780	6,780
Occasional	-	24	24
Total centre-based spaces	11,821	10,656	22,477
Family child care spaces			3,898
Total number of regulated child care spaces			26,375
Children with special needs in regulated child	care		235
Children receiving fee subsidies			10,677
* Average number of subsidized children per four we	eek period.		
Number of centres and homes			
Number of child care centres			583
Full day			259
Part-day nursery schools			176
Stand-alone after-school programs			147
Number of family child care providers			551
Sponsorship of regulated centre-based space	es		
Non-profit			21,338
For-profit			1,139
Total			22,477

SASKATCHEWAN

Number of regulated child care spaces

Centre-based	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Infants (6 weeks – 17 months)	609	Tart-day	609
· ·		-	
Toddlers (18 - 29 months)	1,430	-	1,430
Preschool (30 months - kindergarten)	3,574	-	3,574
School-age (grade 1 - 13 years)	-	935	935
Total centre-based spaces	5,613	935	6,548
Note: Saskatchewan does not regulate part-day(pre	eschool) programs.		
Family child care spaces			2,302
Number of children enrolled in family child care			1,075
Number of children enrolled in group family chil	d care		808
Number of children enrolled in teen support fam	nily child care		19
Total number of regulated child care spaces			8,850
			402
Children with special needs in regulated child	care		403
Children with special needs in regulated child	I care		3,718
	Icare		
Children receiving fee subsidies	Icare		
Children receiving fee subsidies Number of centres and homes	Icare		3,718
Children receiving fee subsidies Number of centres and homes Number of child care centres			3,718 179
Children receiving fee subsidies Number of centres and homes Number of child care centres Number of family child care providers			3,718 179
Children receiving fee subsidies Number of centres and homes Number of child care centres Number of family child care providers Sponsorship of full-time regulated centre spa			3,718 179 276
Children receiving fee subsidies Number of centres and homes Number of child care centres Number of family child care providers Sponsorship of full-time regulated centre spanning the spanning of the spanning control of			3,718 179 276

ALBERTA

Number of regulated child care sp	paces
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Centre-based	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Infants (under 12 months)	1,922	39	1,961
Toddlers (13-19 months)	1,748	22	1,770
Preschool (19-83 months)	21,451	15,428	36,879
Kindergarten	3,070	-	3,070
School-age	73	15,524	15,579
Drop-in	473	-	473
Total centre-based spaces	28,737	31,013	59,750
Family child care spaces (Enrolled 0-6 years only)			11, 427
Total number of regulated/approved child care spaces			71,177
Children with special needs in regulated child car	e		405
Children receiving fee subsidies			11, 459

Note: Alberta Children's Services does not provide subsidies for school-age care except for kindergartenage (ECS- 5-6 years old and not yet in grade 1 children) who attend a school-aged program.

Number of centres and homes

Number of child care centres	1,699
Full-day day care centres	504
Nursery schools	667
School-age(out-of-school) programs	528
Number of family child care agencies	103
Number of family child care providers	2,694

Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces

Non-profit	28,322
For-profit	31,428
Total	59,750

Sponsorship of family child care agencies

Non-profit	41
For-profit	54
Total	95

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Number of regulated child care spaces

Centre-based	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Group child care (under 3 years)	4,440	-	4,440
Group child care (3-5 years)	17,957	-	17,957
Preschool (nursery school)	-	18,790	18,790
School-age	-	26,533	26,533
Emergency Care	-	33	33
Special needs	192	-	192
Total centre-based spaces	22,589	45,356	67,945
Family child care spaces			14,441
Total number of regulated child care spaces			82,386

Note: The number of regulated child care spaces in both centres and family child care homes noted above are those that receive the Child Care Operating Fund (CCOF). Information on the number of spaces that do not receive the CCOF grant is not available and are not included in the totals.

Note: The number of occasional care and child minding spaces are no longer available on a provincewide basis. In 2004 there were 1,972 child-minding and 291 occasional spaces.

Children with special needs in regulated child care

5,800

Children receiving fee subsidies*

13,333

Number of centres and homes * *

Full day (0-3 & 3-5)	1,045
Part-day nursery schools/preschools (30 months - school entry)	1,018
After school programs	1,019
Other (emergency, specialized)	13
Number of CCOF funded and licensed family child care providers	2,097

^{**}Number of CCOF funded and licensed centres and homes

Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces

Information not available

Note: Information on sponsorship (auspice) was available until 2001 when 58% of centre spaces were non-profit and 42% were for-profit.

^{*} Average monthly number of subsidized children in regulated (registered and licensed) child care. Note: British Columbia provides fee subsidies for children in both regulated and unregulated child care.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Centre-based	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Infant (under two years)	110	-	
Preschool (2 -5 years)	799		
School-age (6- 12 years)	-	450	
Total centre-based spaces	909	450	1,359
Note: All centres are licensed as full-time spaces even	though many open	rate as part-day.	
Family child care spaces			344
Infant (0-2 years)			86
Preschool (2-5 years)			172
After-school (6-12 years)			86
Total number of regulated child care spaces			1,703

Children with special needs in regulated child care Information not available

Children receiving fee subsidies Information not available

Number of centres and family child care homes

Number of child care centres	67
Full day	22
Part-day nursery schools/preschools	24
Stand-alone after-school age centres	22
Number of licensed family child care providers	43

Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces All centres are non-profit.

NUNAVUT

Number of regulated child care spaces

Centre-based	Full-day	Part-day	Total
Infant (under two years)	147	-	147
Preschool (2 years-school entry)	511	194	705
School-age (kindergarten - 12 years)	-	118	118
Total regulated child care spaces	658	312	970
Note: There are currently no family child care s	paces.		

Children with special needs in regulated child care Information not available.

Children receiving fee subsidies

This number is not available but aproximately 80 families received subsidies

Number of centres and family child care homes

Number of child care centres	43
Full day	29
Part-day nursery schools/preschools	10
Stand-alone school-age programs	4

Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces All centres are non-profit.

YUKON

Number of regulated child care spaces	
Centre-based .	1,043
Family child care spaces	250
Total number of regulated child care spaces	1293
Note: The breakdown of centre-based spaces by age group is not available.	
Number of occupied centre-based spaces	
Infants (to 18 months)	50
Toddlers (18 - 36 months)	155
Preschool (36 months- school-age)	315
School-age	175
Total number of occupied centre-based spaces	695
Note: All spaces are considered to be full-time.	
Children with special needs in regulated child care	Aprox. 46
Children receiving fee subsidies	568
Number of centres and homes	
Number of child care centres	34
Full day	28
Stand-alone school-age programs	6
Number of family child care providers	39
Sponsorship of regulated centre-based spaces	
Non-profit	676
For-profit	617
Total	1,295
Note: This includes both centre-based and family child care spaces.	

TABLE 1

Regulated child care spaces by type and province/territory - 2007¹

	Centre-based ² full- and part-day child care for children aged 0-5	School-age child care	Regulated family child care³	Total regulated spaces (0-12)
NL	4,812	700	356	5,868
PE	3,992	797	35	4,824
NS	NA ⁴	NA ⁴	148	13,247
NB ⁵	7,858	6,516	288	14,170
QC	114,499	161,428 ⁶	88,645	364,572
ON	149,129	74,912	19,447	242,488
МВ	15,697	6,780	3,898	26,375
SK	5,613	935	2,302	8,850
AB	44,171	15,579	11,427	71,177
ВС	41,412	26,533	14,441	82,386
NT	909	450	344	1,703
NU	852	118	0	970
YT⁵	520	175	250	1,293
Canada ¹	398,197	299,289	141,581	837,923

¹ Note that Canada-wide totals may not add up to 100% as in several cases, different sources of data were used. See provincial/territorial sections for explanations.

² As some provinces cannot break out full- and part-day space statistics, a Canada-wide breakdown of these is not available.

³ Figures for regulated family child care by age group are usually not available.

⁴ Nova Scotia cannot provide a breakdown of 0-5 and school-age spaces; 2/3 (8,733) of the total of centre-based spaces was included in the 0-5 category and 1/3 (4,366) in school-aged.

⁵ In New Brunswick and Yukon, figures broken down by age represent occupied spaces.

⁶ Note that a figure for school-age spaces was not available in Quebec. See the Quebec section for an explanation.

TABLE 2

Total regulated child care spaces by province/territory – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001, 2004, 2006, 2007

	1992	1995	1998	2001	2004	2006	2007
NL	3,568	4,202	4,275	4,226	4,921	5,642	5868
PE	4,123	3,888	3,717	4,270	4,771	4,681	4824
NS	10,826	10,645	11,163	11,464	12,759	12,982	13,247
NB	7,162	7,952	9,204	11,086	11,897	13,163	14,170
QC ¹	78,388	111,452	175,002	234,905	321,732	361,533	364,572
ON	145,545	147,853	167,090 ²	173,135²	206,7432	229,875	243,488
МВ	18,977	18,846	20,490	23,022	25,634	25,984	26,375
SK	6,418	7,266	7,124	7,166	7,910	8,712	8,850
AB	51,656	51,088	47,033	47,693	$63,351$ $(46,238)^3$	66,288 (47,587)³	71,177
ВС	42,927	59,794	68,978	72,949	80,230	79,190	82,386
NT	963	1,286	1,351	1,234	1,219	1,525	1,703
NU	n/a	n/a	n/a	932	1,014	987	970
YT	1,020	1,060	1,307	1,348	1,369	1,330(997)4	1,293
Canada	371,573	425,332	516,734	593,430	745,925	811,262	837,923

¹ Quebec's figures include school-age spaces which are operated by schools under the Ministry of Education. In neither 2006 nor 2007 was a figure for school-age spaces available. In 2006, we calculated an estimate based on the ECEC in Canada 2004 figure of 141,977 school-age spaces and expanded it using the same percentage increase as the increase in total centre-based spaces for children aged 0-4 from 2004-2006 – 13.7%. The estimated 2006 figure – 161,428 – was again used in 2007.

² Ontario's figures for total regulated spaces may not be comparable consistently 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.

³ School-age child care in Alberta became regulated for the first time in 2004. For purpose of comparison with previous years, the 2004 and 2006 figures include total number of spaces with and without school-age care.

^{4 1,330} is the total number of regulated spaces and has been used for comparison purposes with previous years. The figure in brackets represents the total number of occupied spaces.

TABLE 3

Percent of regulated centre-based spaces that are not-for-profit by province/territory – 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001, 2004, 2006, 2007¹

	1992	1995	1998	2001	2004	2006	2007
NL	22	34	39	36	27	31	30
PE	65	68	58	54	30 ²	442	442
NS	60	60	57	57	55	54	54
NB	57	60	n/a	n/a	30^{3}	36^{3}	34^{3}
QC ⁴	82	82	86	86	88	87	86
ON ⁵	76	80	83	83	78	77	77
МВ	90	88	87	92	92	94	95
SK	94	98	99	99	100	99.6	99.6
AB	35	38	41	44	46	416	47
ВС	61	61	60	58	n/a ⁷	n/a ⁷	n/a ⁷
NT	83	92	97	100	100	100	100
NU	n/a	n/a	n/a	100	100	100	100
YT	86	75	74	73	74	69	52 ⁸
Canada	70	72	76	77	809	79°	80°

¹ Full- and part-time spaces may be included in these figures because some provinces cannot provide breakdowns. The not-for-profit category includes both non-profit and publicly-operated spaces (Quebec and Ontario).

² For the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions where kindergarten is in the public education system, this figure does not include part-day kindergarten.

³ Percentage estimate provided by provincial officials. See New Brunswick section for details.

⁴ Quebec's figures include school-age spaces which are under the Ministry of Education. In 2006 a figure for school-age spaces was not available. In 2006, we calculated an estimate based on the ECEC in Canada 2004 figure of 141,977 school-age spaces, expanded using the same percentage increase as the increase in total centre-based spaces for children aged 0-4 from 2004-2006 – 13.7%. The estimated 2006 figure has been used to calculate the totals in these 2007 data.

⁵ Ontario's not-for-profit figures include municipally-operated child care spaces.

 $^{6\,}$ The non-profit percentage figure for Alberta in 2006 should have been 41% not 51%.

⁷ Auspice information has not been available for British Columbia since 2001.

⁸ Percentage includes both centre-based and family child care spaces.

⁹ Total percentage does not include British Columbia or New Brunswick. Note that both of these provinces that do not provide figures on auspice have a substantial proportion of for-profit child care.