

Alberta child care facilities facing COVID-19 outbreak spike. Here's why ^[1]

Author: Wilson, Jacqueline

Source: Global News

Format: Article

Publication Date: 17 May 2021

AVAILABILITY

[Access online](#) ^[2]

EXCERPTS

Child care facilities across Alberta are experiencing a spike in COVID-19 outbreaks.

According to Alberta Health, 87 currently have an outbreak. Of those, more than half are in Calgary.

An outbreak is declared when five or more cases are linked to transmission within a business.

- North Zone: 9
- Edmonton Zone: 22
- Central Zone: 6
- Calgary Zone: 47
- South Zone: 3

In terms of the Calgary outbreaks, here's a breakdown of the data from Alberta Health.

Location	Total	Active	Recovered
1st Class Child Care, Calgary	7	2	5
A2Z Kidz Ed., Calgary	7	6	1
Active Start Childcare Country Hills Centre, Calgary	16	4	12
Active Start Childcare Sage Hill Centre, Calgary	26	21	5
Alpine Montessori Children's Centre, Calgary	12	0	12
Bonavista Montessori Children's Academy, Calgary	12	12	0
BrightPath Airdrie South	12	0	12
BrightPath Richmond, Calgary	8	4	4
BrightPath Sage Hill, Calgary	8	7	1
Brightpath Whitehorn, Calgary	8	7	1
Cancare Children's Centre Arbour Lake, Calgary	33	32	1
Child Enrichment Centre, Calgary	23	0	23
Creative Learning Centre Daycare and Preschool (Canyon Meadows Dr.), Calgary	6	0	6
Crossfield Montessori Childcare, Crossfield	15	1	14
Discovery Childcare, Calgary	10	0	10
Early Discoveries Nursery School, Calgary	19	0	19

Early Explorers Learning Centre, Calgary	12	10	2
Evansfun Dayhome, Calgary	5	0	5
Inner Garden Dayhome, Calgary	7	7	0
Just for You Daycare Killarney, Calgary	8	8	0
Kids & Company (Britannia), Calgary	28	1	27
Kids & Company (Evanston), Calgary	11	1	10
Kids Connection Daycare, High River	8	6	2
Kids First Creative Childcare, Calgary	23	18	5
Kidsland Daycare (McKenzie), Calgary	5	5	0
Kids U – McKnight, Calgary	19	10	9
Kidz Home, Calgary	5	5	0
La Societe Pommes de Reinette Daycare NE, Calgary	10	2	8
Leap n Learn, Okotoks	18	18	0
Little Roots Learning Centre, Calgary	7	1	6
Little Steps Preschool, Airdrie	7	1	6
Little Treasures Inglewood, Calgary	5	0	5
Mahogany Learning Centre, Calgary	6	0	6

Magic Mountain Daycare (Crossings), Airdrie	70	12	58
Magic Mountain Daycare (Kings Heights), Airdrie	5	0	5
Mahogany Scholars Preschool, Calgary	9	0	9
Mount Royal University Child Care Centre (2227 58 Ave.), Calgary	8	3	5
My Kinderhouse Preschool Country Hills, Calgary	8	7	1
Pacekids Program, Calgary	7	4	3
Private day home, Calgary	13	0	13
Private day home, Calgary	7	6	1
Ranchland Montessori Children's Centre, Calgary	5	3	2
Thornhill Child Care Centre (Bowness Montgomery), Calgary	39	9	30
Thornhill Child Care Centre (Centre St.), Calgary	17	5	12
Wee Wild Ones, Calgary	56	22	34
Willowbrae Childcare Academy, Calgary	10	0	10
Wonder World Dayhome, Calgary	8	8	0

Dr. Deena Hinshaw said Monday the spike in child care facility outbreaks can be linked to a number of factors, but the biggest contributor is COVID-19 variants.

"We have seen that variant cases, when introduced into child care facilities — particularly the P1 variant cases — when those are introduced, they can spread more easily than we have seen, even with the B.1.1.7 or other variant cases."

The P1 variant was first identified in Brazil.

Hinshaw adds the increase could also be, in part, due to a lower threshold for reporting outbreaks and the close monitoring of these types of businesses.

One Calgary child-care director attributes the outbreak at her facility to asymptomatic infections.

"They're coming in and they don't have any symptoms, so it's really hard for us to know where the COVID-19 is coming from," said Jenni Van Iderstine, director of Early Discoveries.

Given the surge in cases, the province is investigating if any additional measures need to be taken to improve child care facility safety.

Region: Alberta ^[3]

Tags: COVID-19 ^[4]

health and safety ^[5]

Source URL (modified on 19 May 2021): <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/21/05/alberta-child-care-facilities-facing-covid-19-outbreak-spike-here%E2%80%99s>
Links

[1] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/21/05/alberta-child-care-facilities-facing-covid-19-outbreak-spike-here%E2%80%99s> [2]

<https://globalnews.ca/news/7870847/alberta-child-care-facilities-covid-19-outbreak-spike/> [3] <https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/7859> [4]
<https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/9040> [5] <https://childcarecanada.org/category/tags/health-and-safety>