

# Thinking about having a kid? Here's how much Canadians spend to raise one <sup>[1]</sup>

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## AVAILABILITY

Access online <sup>[2]</sup>

### Excerpts

With the cost of living running high, raising children is not cheap in Canada.

According to new data released by Statistics Canada on Sept. 29, a middle-income family with two parents and two children spends on average \$293,000 to raise one kid till the age of 17.

For lower-income families earning less than \$83,013 per year before tax, this spending comes down to roughly \$238,190.

Higher-income families — making more than \$135,970 gross yearly — would spend about \$403,910 per child.

If the children live five more years in the family home from the age of 18 to 22, that would mean an additional \$68,000 to \$117,000 spent per kid, and that varies depending on the family size and how much they earn, StatCan said.

The data is based on a survey of household spending for the years 2014 to 2017.

It found that families spent almost a third of their income on housing, 20 per cent on transportation, 17 per cent on food and 14 per cent on child care and education.

New child-care measures that have cut daycare fees by at least 50 per cent have offered some relief to parents across the country.

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Even so, inflation, which rose to four per cent in August, a housing crisis and other financial pressures are leading some Canadians to think twice about having kids.

In 2022, the number of babies born in Canada dropped to a 17-year-low, according to a StatCan report released last week.

The high cost of living has magnified the size of the drop in births, one expert told Global News in a previous interview.

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**Related link:** Estimating the cost of raising children: Setting the agenda for Canada <sup>[3]</sup>

Canada urged to calculate how much it costs to raise children <sup>[4]</sup>

Estimating expenditures on children by families in Canada, 2014 to 2017 <sup>[5]</sup>

**Region:** Canada <sup>[6]</sup>

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### Links

<sup>[1]</sup> <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/23/10/thinking-about-having-kid-here%E2%80%99s-how-much-canadians-spend-raise-one> <sup>[2]</sup>

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