



The big picture

- TABLE 1** Number of regulated full- and part-day centre spaces by age category and kindergarten provision. Provinces/territories/Canada (2023) [123](#)
- TABLE 2** Total number of regulated child care spaces (child care centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years, before- and after-school centre spaces and family child care spaces) and percent of children 0 – 12 years for whom a regulated space was available. Provinces/territories/Canada (2023) [125](#)
- TABLE 3** Number and percent of children 0 – 5 years for whom there was a full- or part-day (nursery school/preschool) child care centre space. Provinces/territories/Canada (2023) [126](#)
- TABLE 4** Number and percent of child care centres and centre spaces for children 0 – 12 years that were for-profit. Provinces/territories/Canada (2023) [127](#)
- TABLE 5** Percent of total centre spaces, percent of part-day centre spaces, and percent of full-day centre spaces that were for-profit. Provinces/territories/Canada (2023) [128](#)
- TABLE 6** Licensed capacity and enrolment in full- and part-day child care centres by age grouping. Provinces/territories/Canada (2023) [129](#)
- TABLE 7** First Nations, Métis, and Inuit licensed child care services on reserve/Inuit land and other than on reserve/Inuit land (2023) [130](#)
- TABLE 8** Aboriginal Head Start on Reserve (AHSOR) and Aboriginal Head Start in Urban and Northern Communities (AHSUNC) (2023) [131](#)

TABLE 1 Number of regulated full- and part-day centre spaces by age category and kindergarten provision. Provinces/territories/Canada (2023)

P/T	Number of regulated full- and part-day centre spaces for infants and toddlers	Number of regulated full- and part-day centre spaces for preschool-age children	Number of regulated part-day centre spaces for kindergarten-age ¹ and school-age children	Provision of kindergarten for four- and five-year-olds ¹
NL	1,469	3,903	2,530	Full school-day for all five-year-olds. Four-year-old kindergarten delivered as licensed child care in schools is being phased in.
PE	495 ²	3,508 ²	2,629	Full school-day for all five-year-olds. Four-year-old kindergarten is operated as a part-day program in child care centres.
NS	5,535 ³	5,240 ³	6,118	Full school-day for all four- and five-year-olds.
NB	2,205	14,171	16,563	Full school-day for five-year-olds.
QC	32,520	192,731	378,093 ^{4,5}	Full school-day for five-year-olds. Four-year-old kindergarten is being phased in.
ON	69,609	124,743 ⁶	310,703	Full school-day for all four- and five-year-olds.
MB	3,294	21,628	12,942	Part school-day every day or full school-day every other day for five-year-olds. Some school divisions offer part-day four-year-old kindergarten (nursery).
SK	5,807	9,399	1,620	Part school-day every day or full school-day every other day for five-year-olds, and prekindergarten for some vulnerable three- and four-year-olds.

Note: Due to differences among jurisdictions in how spaces are licensed and tracked, some data in these columns may overlap. See the Space and Enrolment Statistics sections in each province and territory for more detailed information.

Note: Includes licensed, regulated, approved, authorized, and funded spaces.

- 1 In some provinces, a child who is in part-day kindergarten may also be enrolled in a preschool-age child care space.
- 2 Prince Edward Island's data are broken down into infants only (column 1), and toddlers and preschool-age are grouped together (column 2).
- 3 In 2023, Nova Scotia did not report on licensed spaces for children 0 – 5 by age group or by full-day and part-day. As a result, further breakdowns are not available. Enrolment figures are used here in place of regulated spaces.

4 In 2022, Quebec changed the way they calculated before- and after-school spaces. As a result, the 2023 figures are not comparable to previous years.

5 In Quebec, enrolment data is used for kindergarten-age and school-age child care. These programs do not report on licensed capacity.

6 Ontario's preschool-age figure includes 1,012 "family age" multi-age group spaces not broken down by age.

7 Alberta's preschool-age figure includes 510 "innovative" multi-age group spaces not broken down by age.

8 British Columbia's preschool-age figure includes 3,943 multi-age group spaces not broken down by age (children 18 months – 5 years, not yet in school).

9 As the Yukon does not license by age group, enrolment figures are used here in place of licensed capacity.

See next page for continuation of table

Table 1 *continued*. Number of regulated full- and part-day centre spaces by age category and kindergarten provision. Provinces/territories/Canada (2023)

P/T	Number of regulated full- and part-day centre spaces for infants and toddlers	Number of regulated full- and part-day centre spaces for preschool-age children	Number of regulated part-day centre spaces for kindergarten-age ¹ and school-age children	Provision of kindergarten for four- and five-year-olds ¹
AB	34,200	57,810 ⁷	55,600	Part school-day every day or full school-day every other day for five-year-olds and four-year-olds who require additional specialized support.
BC	18,553	65,886 ⁸	42,272	Full school-day for five-year-olds.
YT ⁹	625	815	395	Full school-day for five-year-olds. Full- and part-day for four-year-olds is available in most rural schools.
NT	196	624	792	Full school-day for five-year-olds. Full- and part-day for four-year-olds, depending on location.
NU	210	850	152	Part-day for five-year-olds. In 2023, full school-day kindergarten was being piloted in several schools.
CA	174,718	501,308	830,409	

Note: Due to differences among jurisdictions in how spaces are licensed and tracked, some data in these columns may overlap. See the Space and Enrolment Statistics sections in each province and territory for more detailed information.

Note: Includes licensed, regulated, approved, authorized, and funded spaces.

- 1 In some provinces, a child who is in part-day kindergarten may also be enrolled in a preschool-age child care space.
- 2 Prince Edward Island's data are broken down into infants only (column 1), and toddlers and preschool-age are grouped together (column 2).
- 3 In 2023, Nova Scotia did not report on licensed spaces for children 0 – 5 by age group or by full-day and part-day. As a result, further breakdowns are not available. Enrolment figures are used here in place of regulated spaces.

- 4 In 2022, Quebec changed the way they calculated before- and after-school spaces. As a result, the 2023 figures are not comparable to previous years.
- 5 In Quebec, enrolment data is used for kindergarten-age and school-age child care. These programs do not report on licensed capacity.
- 6 Ontario's preschool-age figure includes 1,012 "family age" multi-age group spaces not broken down by age.
- 7 Alberta's preschool-age figure includes 510 "innovative" multi-age group spaces not broken down by age.
- 8 British Columbia's preschool-age figure includes 3,943 multi-age group spaces not broken down by age (children 18 months – 5 years, not yet in school).
- 9 As the Yukon does not license by age group, enrolment figures are used here in place of licensed capacity.

TABLE 2 Total number of regulated child care spaces (child care centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years, before- and after-school centre spaces and family child care spaces) and percent of children 0 – 12 years for whom a regulated space was available. Provinces/territories/Canada (2023)

P/T	Full- and part-day centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years	Before- and after-school care spaces for children 4 – 12 years	Family child care spaces for children 0 – 12 years ¹	Total spaces for children 0 – 12 years	Percent of children 0 – 12 years for whom a full- or part-day space was available (%)
NL	5,372	2,530	653	8,555	15
PE	4,003	2,629	84	6,716	31
NS	12,773	6,118	1,100	19,991	17
NB	16,376	16,563	582	33,521	35
QC	225,251	378,093 ^{2,3}	65,454	668,798	58
ON	194,352 ⁴	310,703	16,896	521,951	27
MB	24,922	12,942	3,049	40,913	20
SK	15,206	1,620	3,481	20,307	11
AB	92,010 ⁵	55,600	14,390	162,000	23
BC	84,439	42,272	12,342	139,053	23
YT	1,440 ⁶	395 ⁶	183 ⁶	2,228	37
NT	820	792	320	1,932	28
NU	1,060	152	34	1,246	12
CA	678,024	830,409	118,568	1,627,211	32

1 Family child care spaces for children 0 – 12 years may use figures from either enrolment or licensed capacity.

2 In Quebec, enrolment data are used for before- and after-school child care. While spaces are regulated, they are not licensed, so do not have licensed capacity.

3 In 2022, Quebec changed the way they calculated before- and after-school spaces. As a result, the 2023 figures are not comparable to previous years.

4 Ontario's full- and part-day centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years include 1,012 “family age” multi-age group spaces not broken down by age.

5 Alberta's full- and part-day centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years include 510 “innovative” multi-age group spaces not broken down by age.

6 As the Yukon does not license by age group, enrolment figures were used in place of licensed capacity.

TABLE 3

Number and percent of children 0 – 5 years for whom there was a full- or part-day (nursery school/preschool) child care centre space. Provinces/territories/Canada (2023)

P/T	Total number of full- and part-day centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years	Number of full-day centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years	Number of part-day (nursery school/preschool) centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years	Percent of children 0 – 5 years for whom there was a full-day or part-day centre space	Percent of children 0 – 5 years for whom there was a full-day centre space
NL	5,372	5,321	51	23	23
PE	4,003	3,851	152	42	41
NS ¹	12,773	12,773	<i>Not available</i>	26	26
NB	16,376	15,660	716	43	41
QC ²	225,251	225,251	<i>Not available</i>	46	46
ON ³	194,352 ⁴	193,340	<i>Not available</i>	23	23
MB	24,922	22,071	2,851	27	24
SK	15,206	15,206	<i>Not applicable</i> ⁵	18	18
AB	92,010 ⁶	75,800	15,700	32	26
BC	84,439	62,542	17,954	33	24
YT ⁷	1,440	1,440	<i>Not applicable</i> ⁵	63	63
NT ⁸	820	820	<i>Not available</i>	29	29
NU	1,060	810	250	22	17
CA	678,024	634,885	Missing data	31	29

Note: This table includes only centre-based spaces (licensed capacity), as family child care data is usually not broken down by age. Part-day centre spaces refers to preschool or nursery school and does not include part-day before- and after-school spaces for children 0 – 5 years.

- 1 Nova Scotia's data on part-day spaces is not available. Full-day figures include a small number of part-day spaces.
- 2 Quebec's data on part-day spaces is not available. Full-day figures include a small number of part-day spaces.
- 3 Ontario's data on part-day spaces is not available. Full-day figures include a small number of part-day spaces.

4 Ontario's total includes 1,012 "family age" multi-age group spaces not broken down by age.

5 Saskatchewan and the Yukon do not license part-day preschool programs.

6 Alberta's total includes 510 "innovative" multi-age group spaces not broken down by age.

7 As the Yukon does not license by age group, enrolment figures are used here in place of licensed capacity.

8 The Northwest Territories license all centres for children not yet in school as full-day. Some may offer part-day programs.

TABLE 4

Number and percent of child care centres and centre spaces for children 0 – 12 years that were for-profit. Provinces/territories/Canada (2023)

P/T	Number of centres (0 – 12 years) that were for-profit	Percent of centres (0 – 12 years) that were for-profit	Number of full- and part-day centre spaces (0 – 12 years) that were for-profit	Percent of full- and part-day centre spaces (0 – 12 years) that were for-profit
NL	112	58	5,309 ¹	67
PE	91	60	4,288 ¹	65
NS	160	47	9,581 ²	51
NB	491	68	21,833 ¹	66
QC ³	1,979	54 ⁴	120,589 ²	20 ⁵
ON	1,448	25	106,741 ²	21
MB	43	5.7	2,084 ¹	5.5
SK	14	3.7	613 ²	3.6
AB	1,300	57	95,400 ¹	65
BC	2,043	57	69,104 ¹	55
YT	35	61	1,204 ²	59
NT ⁶	0	0	0	0
NU ⁶	0	0	0	0
CA	7,716	43	436,746	29

Note: Includes full-day centres, part-day centres (preschool/nursery school) where applicable, and school-age centres.

- 1 Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Manitoba, Alberta, and British Columbia figures include full- and part-day centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years, and school-age centre spaces.
- 2 Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, and the Yukon figures only include full-day and school-age centre spaces. Figures for part-day centre-based child care (nursery schools/preschools) are either not available or not applicable.

3 In Quebec, data are not available for part-day centres (preschools) or spaces. Therefore, these figures only include full-day spaces.

4 In Quebec, the percent of centres do not include school-age programs.

5 In 2022, Quebec changed the way they calculated before- and after-school spaces. As a result, the 2023 figures are not comparable to previous years.

6 Northwest Territories and Nunavut do not have for-profit child care.

TABLE 5 Percent of total centre spaces, percent of part-day centre spaces, and percent of full-day centre spaces that were for-profit. Provinces/territories/Canada (2023)

P/T	Percent of total centre spaces for children 0 – 12 years that were for-profit	Percent of part-day centre spaces for children 0 – 12 years that were for-profit	Percent of full-day centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years that were for-profit
NL	67	61 ¹	70
PE	65	58 ¹	69
NS ³	51	40 ²	56
NB	66	62 ¹	72
QC ^{4,5}	20	0 ⁶	54
ON ⁷	21	7.4 ²	43
MB	5.5	3.2 ¹	7.2
SK	3.6	1.4 ²	3.9
AB	65	55 ¹	75
BC	55	41 ¹	67
YT	59	<i>Not available</i> ⁸	59
NT	0	0	0
NU	0	0	0
CA	29	12	52

Note: In this table, part-day includes both part-day nursery school/preschool spaces and before- and after-school spaces.

- 1 Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Manitoba, Alberta, and British Columbia's part-day spaces include part-day nursery school/preschool centre spaces and before- and after-school child care spaces.
- 2 Nova Scotia, Ontario, and Saskatchewan's part-day for-profit spaces include only before- and after-school child care spaces.
- 3 In Nova Scotia, part-day nursery school spaces are included with full-day spaces as breakdowns were not available.
- 4 In Quebec, data on part-day centres for children 0 – 5 years are not available. Figures for full-day centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years may include a small number of part-day spaces.

- 5 In 2022, Quebec changed the way they calculated before- and after-school spaces. As a result, the 2023 figures are not comparable to previous years.
- 6 In Quebec, the total number of part-day centre spaces only represents before- and after-school child care, which is operated by school authorities.
- 7 In Ontario, part-day nursery school spaces are included with full-day spaces as breakdowns were not available.
- 8 In the Yukon, age breakdowns are not available for licensed capacity, therefore the percent of part-day spaces that are for-profit is not available.

TABLE 6

Licensed capacity and enrolment in full- and part-day child care centres by age grouping. Provinces/territories/Canada (2023)

P/T	Licensed capacity			Enrolment		
	Infant, toddler, and preschool-age	Kindergarten-age and school-age	Total licensed capacity	Infant, toddler, and preschool-age	Kindergarten-age and school-age	Total enrolment
NL	5,372	2,530	7,902	4,706	2,036	6,742
PE	4,003	2,629	6,632	3,228	Not available ¹	Some missing data
NS	12,773	6,118	18,891	10,775	Not available	Some missing data
NB	16,376	16,563	32,939	12,849	6,450	19,299
QC	225,251 ²	378,093 ^{3,4}	603,344	203,474	378,093	581,567
ON	194,352 ⁵	310,703	505,055	155,064	152,244	307,308
MB	24,922	12,942	37,864	Not available	Not available	Not available
SK	15,206	1,620	16,826	10,923	Not available	Some missing data
AB	92,010 ⁶	55,600	147,610	87,260	39,700	126,960
BC	84,439	42,272	126,711	94,259	40,290	134,549
YT	1,440 ⁷	395 ⁷	2,045	1,440	395	1,835
NT	820	792	1,612	Not available	Not available	Not available
NU	1,060	152	1,212	1,015	143	1,158
CA ⁸	678,024	830,409	1,508,643⁹	Some missing data	Some missing data	Some missing data

Note: Enrolment data are not consistently available for all provinces/territories. In some provinces, a child who is in part-day kindergarten may also be enrolled in a preschool-age child care space. Data include part-day nursery schools.

- 1 Prince Edward Island only tracks enrolment in designated Early Years Centres. Information on enrolment in non-designated centres and before- and after-school programs is not available.
- 2 In Quebec, data on licensed capacity and enrolment in part-day nursery schools/preschools are not available. Figures for infants, toddlers, and preschool-age may include a small number of part-day spaces.
- 3 In 2022, Quebec changed the way they calculated before- and after-school spaces. As a result, the 2023 figures are not comparable to previous years.
- 4 In Quebec, enrolment data are used for kindergarten-age and school-age child care. While spaces are regulated, they are not licensed, so do not have licensed capacity.

5 Ontario data for infants, toddlers, and preschool-age include 1,012 “family age” multi-age group spaces not broken down by age.

6 Alberta’s infants, toddlers, and preschool-age figure includes 510 “innovative” multi-age group spaces not broken down by age.

7 As the Yukon does not license by age group, enrolment figures are used here in place of licensed capacity.

8 Where data are missing (not available) the respective rows or columns have not been totalled.

9 The sum of the Canada-wide licensed capacity by age group is not equal to the overall total capacity, as the Yukon does not license by age group and therefore is not included in the licensed capacity by age group columns.

TABLE 7 First Nations, Métis, and Inuit licensed child care services on reserve/Inuit land and other than on reserve/Inuit land (2023)

PT	Number of licensed programs on First Nations reserves or Inuit lands (centres and family child care)	Number of licensed Indigenous-led services not on reserve or Inuit land
NL	Five full-day centres ¹ One family child care home	One full-day centre
PE	Two full-day centres	One full-day centre
NS	Not applicable ²	One full-day centre
NB	Six full-day centres	<i>Not available</i>
QC	66 full-day centres ³ Two family child care agencies	10 full-day centres One family child care agency
ON	75 centres; 71 full-day programs, 27 before- and after-school programs Two family child care agencies	53 centres; 48 full-day programs, 21 before- and after-school programs
MB	One full-day centre	14 centres; 10 full-day centres, three part-day centres, one school-age centre
SK	Two full-day centres	Five full-day centres
AB	Five centres; five full-day programs, one part-day program, two before- and after-school programs	27 centres; 12 full-day programs, 15 part-day programs, three before- and after-school programs
BC ⁴	110 full-day centres 91 licensed family child care homes	239 full-day centres
YT ⁵	<i>Not applicable</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>
NT	16 full-day centres ⁶ One family child care home	Outside Yellowknife and Hay River, the majority of the population in the Northwest Territories is Indigenous. All child care in smaller communities primarily serves Indigenous children, and most is Indigenous-led.
NU ⁷	<i>Not applicable</i>	Almost all licensed child care centres in Nunavut primarily serve Inuit children, and most are Inuit-led.

Note: The table does not include Aboriginal Head Start programs. See Table 8 for information about Aboriginal Head Start on Reserve (AHSOR) and Aboriginal Head Start in Urban and Northern Communities (AHSUNC).

Note: Inuit Nunangat (Inuit lands) is comprised of Inuvialuit (Northwest Territories and the Yukon), Nunavik (Northern Quebec), Nunatsiavut (Labrador), and all of Nunavut. Where applicable, breakdowns of child care on Inuit lands and First Nations reserves are provided in footnotes.

- 1 Newfoundland and Labrador include four centres on Inuit land, and one centre and one family child care home on reserve.
- 2 Nova Scotia does not license child care on reserve.
- 3 Quebec includes 20 centres and one agency on Inuit land, and 46 centres and one agency on reserve.

4 British Columbia's figures were accurate as of March 31, 2021. 2023 data is not available.

5 There are no First Nations reserves in the Yukon, however there are self-governing First Nations and settlement areas, including Inuit land. Nine centres in the Yukon are operated by Indigenous governing bodies.

6 In the Northwest Territories, there are 15 centres and one family child care home on lands covered by finalized self-government agreements and/or land and resource agreements (including Inuit land), and one centre on reserve.

7 The territory of Nunavut is the result of one land claim agreement that took effect April 1, 1999. The whole territory is Inuit land. More than 80% of the Nunavut population is Inuit.

TABLE 8 Aboriginal Head Start on Reserve (AHSOR) and Aboriginal Head Start in Urban and Northern Communities (AHSUNC) (2023)

P/T	Aboriginal Head Start on Reserve (AHSOR) (First Nations)	Aboriginal Head Start in Urban and Northern Communities (AHSUNC) (First Nations, Inuit, Métis)
	Total number of AHSOR programs (licensed and unlicensed)	Total number of AHSUNC programs (licensed and unlicensed)
NL	2	3
PE	2	1
NS	13	6 ¹
NB	15	1 licensed
QC	41	28
ON	123 licensed	14
MB	42	21, of which 3 are licensed
SK	77	15
AB	49	20, of which 16 are licensed
BC	7 licensed	10 licensed
YT	<i>Not applicable</i>	4, of which 2 are licensed
NT	1 licensed	8, of which 6 are licensed
NU	<i>Not applicable</i>	7 licensed

Note: Unless otherwise indicated, programs are not licensed or licence status is not available.

¹ *ECEC in Canada 2021* incorrectly reported one AHSUNC program in Nova Scotia; the correct number for 2021 and 2023 is six.