



The long view

- TABLE 9** Total number of regulated child care spaces (in child care centres, before- and after-school centres, and family child care) for children 0 – 12 years. Provinces/territories/Canada (1992 – 2023) [133](#)
- TABLE 10** Number of regulated full- and part-day centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years. Provinces/territories/Canada (2014 – 2023) [135](#)
- TABLE 11** Percent of children 0 – 5 years for whom there was a regulated full- or part-day child care centre space. Provinces/territories/Canada (1992 – 2023) [136](#)
- TABLE 12** Number of children (rounded estimates in thousands). Provinces/territories/Canada (1992 – 2023) [138](#)
- TABLE 13** Number of children with employed mothers (rounded estimate in thousands). Provinces/territories/Canada (1995 – 2023) [140](#)
- TABLE 14** Workforce participation rate of mothers by age of youngest child (rounded estimates in thousands). Provinces/Canada (1998 – 2023) [142](#)
- TABLE 15** Total number of regulated child care centres. Provinces/territories/Canada (2004 – 2023) [145](#)
- TABLE 16** Total number of active regulated family child care homes. Provinces/territories/Canada (2004 – 2023) [146](#)
- TABLE 17** Total spending for regulated child care by provinces/territories (rounded in millions). Provinces/territories/Canada (1992 – 2023) [147](#)
- TABLE 18** Percent of regulated full- and part-day centre spaces for children 0 – 12 years that were for-profit. Provinces/territories/Canada (1992 – 2023) [148](#)
- TABLE 19** Federal child care funding under the Multilateral Framework Agreement (rounded in millions). Provinces/territories/Canada (2017 – 2024) [149](#)
- TABLE 20** Federal child care funding under the CWELCC initiative (rounded in millions). Provinces/territories/Canada (2021 – 2024) [150](#)
- TABLE 21** Median monthly parent fees for preschool-age children in Canada’s large cities. Provinces/territories (2019 – 2023) [151](#)

TABLE 9

Total number of regulated child care spaces (in child care centres, before- and after-school centres, and family child care) for children 0 – 12 years. Provinces/territories/Canada (1992 – 2023)

P/T	1992	1995	1998	2001	2004	2006	2007	2008
NL	3,568	4,202	4,275	4,226	4,921	5,642	5,868	5,972
PE ¹	4,123	3,888	3,717	4,270	4,100	4,051	4,293	4,424
NS	10,826	10,645	11,163	11,464	12,759	12,982	13,247	13,711
NB	7,162	7,952	9,204	11,086	11,897	13,163	14,170	15,506
QC	78,388	111,452	175,002	234,905	321,732	361,533	364,572	368,909
ON	145,545	147,853	167,090	173,135	206,743	229,875	242,488	256,748
MB	18,977	18,846	20,490	23,022	25,634	25,984	26,375	27,189
SK	6,418	7,266	7,124	7,166	7,910	8,712	8,850	9,173
AB ²	51,656	51,088	47,033	47,693	63,351 (46,238)	66,288 (47,587)	71,177 (52,528)	73,981 (54,499)
BC	42,927	59,794	68,978	72,949	80,230	79,190	82,386	87,538
YT	1,020	1,060	1,307	1,348	1,369	1,330	1,293	1,262
NT	963	1,286	1,351	1,234	1,219	1,525	1,703	1,768
NU	<i>Not applicable</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	932	1,014	987	970	1,013
CA	371,573	425,332	516,734	593,430	745,925	811,262	837,392	867,194

1 Prince Edward Island introduced publicly funded part-day kindergarten in September 2000 for the first time as part of regulated child care. In 2010, kindergarten moved to the public education system. For the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions, part-day kindergarten spaces were not included in the totals from 2001 – 2010.

2 School-age child care in Alberta became regulated for the first time in 2004. For the purpose of comparison with previous years, the 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, and 2012 figures include the total number of spaces with and without school-age care. After 2012, the Alberta figures include school-age spaces.

3 The Nova Scotia figure for regulated spaces for 2021 did not include 672 spaces in the Nova Scotia Before and After Program (NS-BAP), under-representing Nova Scotia 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.

See next page for continuation of table

Table 9 continued. Total number of regulated child care spaces (in child care centres, before- and after-school centres, and family child care) for children 0 – 12 years. Provinces/territories/Canada (1992 – 2023)

P/T	2010	2012	2014	2016	2019	2021	2023
NL	6,200	7,200	7,200	8,159	8,110	8,042	8,555
PE ¹	5,084	4,051	4,262	4,642	5,693	6,393	6,716
NS	15,295	17,321	17,899	19,145	19,016	16,738 ³	19,991
NB	18,785	21,695	25,491	26,851	30,363	32,416	33,521
QC	379,386	401,568	556,447	617,864	663,601	620,132	668,798 ⁴
ON	276,410	292,997	334,010	405,570	466,935	477,272	521,951
MB	29,382	30,614	32,531	34,261	37,459	38,397	40,913
SK	10,848	12,275	13,314	14,546	16,797	17,666	20,307
AB ²	82,050 (62,980)	91,884 (69,610)	99,009	109,482	138,892	140,509	162,000
BC	97,170	102,908	106,719	105,902	115,487	127,362	139,053
YT	1,431	1,440	1,114	1,145	1,297	1,869	2,228
NT	1,785	<i>Not available</i>	1,872	1,776	1,864	2,003	1,932
NU	1,015	1,104	1,140	1,044	1,144	1,247	1,246
CA	921,841	986,842	1,201,008	1,350,387	1,506,658	1,490,046	1,627,211

1 Prince Edward Island introduced publicly funded part-day kindergarten in September 2000 for the first time as part of regulated child care. In 2010, kindergarten moved to the public education system. For the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions, part-day kindergarten spaces were not included in the totals from 2001 – 2010.

2 School-age child care in Alberta became regulated for the first time in 2004. For the purpose of comparison with previous years, the 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, and 2012 figures include the total number of spaces with and without school-age care. After 2012, the Alberta figures include school-age spaces.

3 The Nova Scotia figure for regulated spaces for 2021 did not include 672 spaces in the Nova Scotia Before and After Program (NS-BAP), under-representing Nova Scotia 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.

TABLE 10

Number of regulated full- and part-day centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years. Provinces/territories/Canada (2014 – 2023)

	2014	2016	2019	2021			2023		
P/T	Total full- and part-day centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years	Total full- and part-day centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years	Total full- and part-day centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years	Full-day centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years	Part-day centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years	Total full- and part-day centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years	Full-day centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years	Part-day centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years	Total full- and part-day centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years
NL	5,638 ¹	6,355	6,382	4,627	75	4,702 ²	5,321	51	5,372
PE	2,984	3,313	3,645	3,719	206	3,925	3,851	152	4,003
NS	12,862	13,203	12,951	11,084	875	11,959	12,773	<i>Not available</i> ³	12,773
NB	11,965	12,085	14,024	14,341	881	15,222	15,660	716	16,376
QC	156,367	193,711	213,119	214,168	<i>Not available</i> ⁴	214,168	225,251	<i>Not available</i> ⁴	225,251
ON	147,155	157,772	172,951 ⁵	180,758	<i>Not available</i> ⁶	180,758	193,340 ⁵	<i>Not available</i> ⁶	194,352 ⁵
MB	19,846	20,877	22,495	20,721	2,228	22,949	22,071	2,851	24,922
SK	9,793	11,057	12,970	13,735	<i>Not applicable</i> ⁷	13,735	15,206	<i>Not applicable</i> ⁷	15,206
AB	62,109	69,603	67,610	65,207	15,609	80,816	75,800 ⁵	15,700	92,010 ⁵
BC	59,622	61,022	67,780	58,466 ⁵	17,748	76,214 ⁵	62,542	17,954	84,439
YT ⁸	708	784	935	1,070	<i>Not applicable</i> ⁷	1,070	1,440	<i>Not applicable</i> ⁷	1,440
NT ⁹	969	1,022	779	763	<i>Not available</i>	763	820	<i>Not available</i>	820
NU	975	899	971	794	258	1,052	810	250	1,060
CA	493,007	551,703	596,612	589,453	Missing data	627,333	634,885	Missing data	678,024

Note: Breakdowns of full- and part-day (preschool/nursery school) centre spaces were less available before 2021.

- Figures for Newfoundland and Labrador were not available in 2014; the 2012 figures were used in this table for 2014.
- Prior to 2021, Newfoundland and Labrador included spaces for kindergarten-age children with preschool spaces. In 2021, these spaces were moved to the before- and after-school category. As a result, the apparent drop in coverage for children 0 – 5 years in 2021 is due to the change in category rather than an actual drop in coverage. The figures for 2021 and 2023 are therefore not comparable to earlier years.
- Nova Scotia data for part-day spaces was not available in 2023; full-day figures include a relatively small number of part-day spaces.

4 Quebec data on part-day spaces is not available; full-day figures include a relatively small number of part-day spaces.

5 Ontario, Alberta, and British Columbia's figures for centre spaces for children 0 – 5 years include multi-age group spaces not broken down by age.

6 Ontario data on part-day nursery school spaces is not available; full-day figures include a relatively small number of part-day spaces.

7 Saskatchewan and the Yukon do not license part-day centres (preschools).

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

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

TABLE 11

Percent of children 0 – 5 years for whom there was a regulated full- or part-day child care centre space. Provinces/territories/Canada (1992 – 2023)

P/T	1992 (%)	1995 (%)	1998 (%)	2001 (%)	2004 (%)	2006 (%)	2008 (%)	2010 (%)	2012 (%)	2014 (%)	2016 (%)	2019 (%)	2021 (%)	2023 (%)
NL	7	9	11	12	13	17	17	18	19	19 ¹	24	25	20 ²	23
PE ³	30	29	31	38	38	42	41	42	47	32	39	41	45	42
NS	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	25	22	23	24	26	27	25	25	26
NB	Not available	Not available	Not available	12	Not available	18	20	21	31	21	29	35	38	43
QC	9	9	12	17	22	26	25	29	36	30	38	42	43	46
ON	12	Not available	12 (est.)	14 (est.)	15	17	20	20	21	23	19 ⁴	21	21	23 ⁵
MB	13	14	15	18	20	20	21	23	21	23	24	25	25	27
SK	4	4	5	5	7	8	9	11	12	13	14	17	18	18
AB	18	18	18	18	19	18	17	20	20	20	22	22	26	32 ⁶

Note: The figures represented here include only full- and part-day (nursery school/preschool) centre-based care for children 0 – 5 years. They do not include before- and after-school care. Regulated family child care is not factored into the calculations as breakdowns by age group are not available.

- Figures for Newfoundland and Labrador were not available in 2014; the 2012 figures were used in this table for 2014.
- Prior to 2021, Newfoundland and Labrador included spaces for kindergarten-age children with preschool spaces. In 2021, these spaces were moved to the before- and after-school category. As a result, the apparent drop in coverage for children 0 – 5 years in 2021 is due to the change in category rather than an actual drop in coverage. The figures for 2021 and 2023 are therefore not comparable to earlier years.
- Prince Edward Island introduced publicly funded part-day kindergarten in September 2000 for the first time as part of regulated child care. In 2010, kindergarten moved to the public education system. For the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions, part-day kindergarten spaces were not included in the totals from 2001 – 2010.

- Ontario's figure in *ECEC in Canada 2016* incorrectly included kindergarten-age spaces in the children 0 – 5 years age group, which should have been included in before- and after-school child care. For this table, the kindergarten-age spaces have been removed and the 2016 Canada-wide figure reflects the recalculation.
- Ontario's figure was calculated including 1,012 “family age” multi-age group spaces not broken down by age.
- Alberta's figure was calculated including 510 “innovative” multi-age group spaces not broken down by age.
- As the Yukon does not license by age group, enrolment figures were used to calculate this figure.

See next page for continuation of table

Table 11 *continued*. Percent of children 0 – 5 years for whom there was a regulated full- or part-day child care centre space. Provinces/territories/Canada (1992 – 2023)

P/T	1992 (%)	1995 (%)	1998 (%)	2001 (%)	2004 (%)	2006 (%)	2008 (%)	2010 (%)	2012 (%)	2014 (%)	2016 (%)	2019 (%)	2021 (%)	2023 (%)
BC	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	20	24	23	24	27	30	33
YT	25	Not available	Not available	Not available	36	26	28	28	29	28	31	41	49	63 ⁷
NT	10	Not available	Not available	Not available	19	21	23	23	Not available	26	27	21	22	29
NU	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	23	21	20	21	21	23	18	22	25	22
CA	12	12	13	15	17	19	20	22	23	24	25 ⁴	27	28	31

Note: The figures represented here include only full- and part-day (nursery school/preschool) centre-based care for children 0 – 5 years. They do not include before- and after-school care. Regulated family child care is not factored into the calculations as breakdowns by age group are not available.

- 1 Figures for Newfoundland and Labrador were not available in 2014; the 2012 figures were used in this table for 2014.
- 2 Prior to 2021, Newfoundland and Labrador included spaces for kindergarten-age children with preschool spaces. In 2021, these spaces were moved to the before- and after-school category. As a result, the apparent drop in coverage for children 0 – 5 years in 2021 is due to the change in category rather than an actual drop in coverage. The figures for 2021 and 2023 are therefore not comparable to earlier years.
- 3 Prince Edward Island introduced publicly funded part-day kindergarten in September 2000 for the first time as part of regulated child care. In 2010, kindergarten moved to the public education system. For the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions, part-day kindergarten spaces were not included in the totals from 2001 – 2010.

- 4 Ontario's figure in *ECEC in Canada 2016* incorrectly included kindergarten-age spaces in the children 0 – 5 years age group, which should have been included in before- and after-school child care. For this table, the kindergarten-age spaces have been removed and the 2016 Canada-wide figure reflects the recalculation.
- 5 Ontario's figure was calculated including 1,012 "family age" multi-age group spaces not broken down by age.
- 6 Alberta's figure was calculated including 510 "innovative" multi-age group spaces not broken down by age.
- 7 As the Yukon does not license by age group, enrolment figures were used to calculate this figure.

TABLE 12 Number of children (rounded estimates in thousands). Provinces/territories/Canada (1992 – 2023)

Number of children 0 – 5 years

P/T	1992	1995	1998	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009	2012	2014	2016	2019	2021	2023
NL	45	41	34	30	31	29	28	28	30	28	26	25	24	23
PE	12	11	10	10	8.4	8	8.5	8.5	8.6	8.9	8.1	8.6	8.8	10
NS	74	70	64	61	55	51	49	53	54	50	49	51	48	49
NB	57	56	51	49	46	44	40	44	44	41	42	40	40	39
QC	502	565	527	460	443	435	468	455	513	516	504	509	501	489
ON	848	899	875	844	832	822	812	828	846	868	834	838	849	845
MB	98	92	87	79	76	77	78	77	89	87	88	91	94	92
SK	94	85	77	76	69	67	64	71	77	77	81	78	77	83
AB	250	242	231	233	218	228	246	260	291	308	317	314	308	289
BC	266	286	289	248	255	233	244	257	268	262	253	252	251	256
YT ¹	2	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	1.9	2.1	2.2	2.5	2.4	2.7	2.4	2.2	2.3
NT ¹	9	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	4	3.9	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.4	3.4	2.8
NU ²	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not available	Not available	2.9	3.1	4.4	4.6	4.5	4.9	4.5	4.2	4.8
CA ^{1,3}	2,257	2,347	2,245	2,090	2,033	2,003	2,047	2,092	2,232	2,257	2,213	2,217	2,210	2,184

1 Canada-wide totals did not include Northwest Territories or the Yukon from 1995 – 2004.

2 The territory of Nunavut was officially created in 1999. Figures were not available until 2005.

3 Canada-wide totals may not add up due to rounding.

See next page for continuation of table

Table 12 *continued*. Number of children (rounded estimates in thousands). Provinces/territories/Canada (1992 – 2023)

Number of children 6 – 12 years														
P/T	1992	1995	1998	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009	2012	2014	2016	2019	2021	2023
NL	63	57	52	46	41	39	37	36	34	37	37	37	34	34
PE	14	14	14	13	13	12	12	11	11	11	12	12	12	12
NS	86	86	89	80	77	75	69	65	61	61	64	62	68	71
NB	72	70	68	63	63	58	56	52	51	50	50	54	55	58
QC	655	627	646	656	634	604	554	560	560	579	618	647	650	671
ON	964	1,024	1,098	1,100	1,097	1,097	1,071	1,032	1,047	1,011	1,072	1,108	1,090	1,108
MB	111	106	108	107	104	102	97	98	98	98	104	110	116	115
SK	112	107	106	93	91	81	81	80	84	86	92	99	106	101
AB	279	289	301	289	298	284	295	299	307	329	364	384	389	408
BC	312	338	351	353	329	341	324	314	302	309	322	332	358	347
YT ¹	3	<i>Not available</i>	<i>Not available</i>	<i>Not available</i>	<i>Not available</i>	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.7	3.2	3.6	3.8
NT ¹	8	<i>Not available</i>	<i>Not available</i>	<i>Not available</i>	<i>Not available</i>	4.5	4.0	3.8	4.0	3.8	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.2
NU ²	<i>Not applicable</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	<i>Not available</i>	<i>Not available</i>	3	2.8	4.1	4.4	4.9	4.9	5.5	6.0	5.2
CA ^{1,3}	2,679	2,718	2,833	2,800	2,747	2,703	2,605	2,557	2,566	2,582	2,747	2,858	2,891	2,938

1 Canada-wide totals did not include Northwest Territories or the Yukon from 1995 – 2004.

2 The territory of Nunavut was officially created in 1999. Figures were not available until 2005.

3 Canada-wide totals may not add up due to rounding.

TABLE 13

Number of children with employed mothers (rounded estimate in thousands). Provinces/territories/Canada (1995 – 2023)

Number of children 0 – 5 years with employed mothers¹

P/T	1995	1998	2001	2004	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	2019	2021	2023
NL	22	19	18	17	16	16	15	17	16	16	15	15	16
PE	8	8	7	6	7	6	6	6	7	5.4	6.2	6.4	7.6
NS	40	38	40	35	32	30	32	34	32	32	33	33	33
NB	30	31	32	28	26	26	30	27	26	28	28	28	27
QC	325	325	304	286	358	320	305	356	358	367	377	358	374
ON	539	546	538	495	530	504	500	524	530	508	519	542	574
MB	55	54	49	46	49	47	42	49	49	50	52	56	57
SK	55	47	47	43	50	39	45	47	50	49	52	52	53
AB	154	138	135	118	137	140	141	160	137	181	186	178	184
BC	162	168	147	148	161	144	151	151	161	153	167	162	172
YT ²	Not available	Not available	Not available	0.9	1.7	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.7
NT ²	Not available	Not available	Not available	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.1	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.2	1.9
NU ³	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	1.6	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.5
CA ⁴	1,390	1,374	1,317	1,225	1,370	1,276	1,270	1,376	1,372	1,395	1,441	1,437	1,501

Note: Further age breakdowns are available in the provincial/territorial chapters of *ECEC in Canada* 1992 – 2023.

1 The term “Mothers in the paid labour force” was used in versions of *ECEC in Canada* until 2014 when the term “Employed mothers” began to be used. The terms are comparable.

2 Canada-wide totals did not include Northwest Territories or the Yukon from 1995 - 2004.

3 The territory of Nunavut was officially created in 1999. Figures were not available until 2012.

4 Canada-wide totals may not add up due to rounding.

See next page for continuation of table

Table 13 *continued*. Number of children with employed mothers (rounded estimate in thousands). Provinces/territories/Canada (1995 – 2023)

Number of children 6 – 12 years with employed mothers ¹													
P/T	1995	1998	2001	2004	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	2019	2021	2023
NL	33	30	31	25	16	23	23	22	24	23	23	22	24
PE	10	11	10	10	7	8	8	8	8	8.3	8.9	8.5	9
NS	53	59	57	51	32	47	44	41	42	45	44	47	49
NB	43	44	45	41	26	39	37	35	34	36	36	39	39
QC	400	424	469	424	358	395	389	391	418	453	480	476	516
ON	711	774	787	730	530	725	688	694	671	722	749	722	757
MB	76	79	79	72	49	67	63	63	62	66	70	75	79
SK	80	77	66	64	50	57	58	57	61	61	69	72	71
AB	211	207	206	198	137	202	198	199	238	224	255	243	281
BC	245	234	241	210	161	215	200	201	203	211	233	245	234
YT ²	Not available	Not available	Not available	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.8	2	2.1	2.2	2.7	2.9
NT ²	Not available	Not available	Not available	3.2	2.4	3	2.5	2.8	2.7	2.9	2.9	3.1	3.2
NU ³	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	2.2	2.5	2.2	2.5	2.6	2.3
CA ⁴	1,862	1,939	1,991	1,830	1,370	1,783	1,712	1,718	1,768	1,857	1,976	1,959	2,066

Note: Further age breakdowns are available in the provincial/territorial chapters of *ECEC in Canada 1992 – 2023*.

1 The term “Mothers in the paid labour force” was used in versions of *ECEC in Canada* until 2014 when the term “Employed mothers” began to be used. The terms are comparable.

2 Canada-wide totals did not include Northwest Territories or the Yukon from 1995 - 2004.

3 The territory of Nunavut was officially created in 1999. Figures were not available until 2012.

4 Canada-wide totals may not add up due to rounding.

TABLE 14

Workforce participation rate of mothers by age of youngest child (rounded estimates in thousands). Provinces/Canada (1998 – 2023)

P/T	With youngest child 0 – 2 years											With youngest child 0 – 3 years			
	1998 (%)	2001 (%)	2004 (%)	2006 (%)	2008 (%)	2010 (%)	2012 (%)	2014 (%)	2016 (%)	2019 (%)	2020 (%)	2020 (%)	2021 (%)	2023 (%)	
NL	58	64	71	66	66	68	68	70	68	68	71	76	75	83	
PE	81	77	78	81	78	76	78	85	76	84	80	81	85	86	
NS	63	71	71	76	70	68	74	75	73	74	74	78	79	80	
NB	64	67	70	71	76	76	73	71	70	77	75	78	82	80	
QC	65	67	73	74	74	73	77	77	80	80	78	81	81	84	
ON	65	67	68	69	68	69	71	70	69	70	72	74	76	78	
MB	62	66	68	64	66	62	66	65	67	65	68	71	71	74	
SK	65	65	67	67	69	70	65	71	69	72	70	71	77	76	
AB	64	60	59	63	61	63	60	60	63	66	70	72	69	73	
BC	62	63	67	64	65	66	64	70	68	74	73	73	75	79	
CA	65	67	69	70	69	69	70	71	70	73	73	75	76	79	

Note: In 2020, Statistics Canada changed the way that the Labour Force Survey calculated the workforce participation rate of mothers by age of youngest child. The youngest child age groupings changed from 0 – 2, 3 – 5, and 6 – 15 years, to 0 – 3, 4 – 5, and 6 – 12 years, and only mothers aged 25 years and older are now included. In 2020, data were available for both the previous and new calculations and both are included in the table. In 2021 and beyond, only the new groupings are included.

Note: Comparable figures for mothers' employment rate are not available for the territories.

See next page for continuation of table

Table 14 *continued*. Workforce participation rate of mothers by age of youngest child (rounded estimates in thousands). Provinces/Canada (1998 – 2023)

P/T	With youngest child 3 – 5 years											With youngest child 4 – 5 years			
	1998 (%)	2001 (%)	2004 (%)	2006 (%)	2008 (%)	2010 (%)	2012 (%)	2014 (%)	2016 (%)	2019 (%)	2020 (%)	2020 (%)	2021 (%)	2023 (%)	
NL	63	66	67	71	74	73	78	69	79	76	86	88	80	85	
PE	83	79	82	84	85	83	82	85	76	81	78	78	87	81	
NS	70	72	77	77	78	83	77	78	84	79	82	83	81	78	
NB	69	74	75	80	77	81	80	81	84	82	86	85	83	84	
QC	67	75	77	79	80	78	81	82	81	84	86	86	86	89	
ON	72	74	74	76	79	75	75	77	77	75	75	75	77	80	
MB	76	75	77	76	76	71	74	74	75	75	73	81	81	78	
SK	73	74	77	77	77	77	80	76	76	82	78	79	86	78	
AB	71	71	71	69	73	70	73	72	73	76	73	74	68	83	
BC	67	69	74	76	71	75	75	76	74	78	73	76	76	79	
CA	71	73	75	77	77	77	78	77	78	79	78	78	79	82	

Note: In 2020, Statistics Canada changed the way that the Labour Force Survey calculated the workforce participation rate of mothers by age of youngest child. The youngest child age groupings changed from 0 – 2, 3 – 5, and 6 – 15 years, to 0 – 3, 4 – 5, and 6 – 12 years, and only mothers aged 25 years and older are now included. In 2020, data were available for both the previous and new calculations and both are included in the table. In 2021 and beyond, only the new groupings are included.

Note: Comparable figures for mothers' employment rate are not available for the territories.

See next page for continuation of table

Table 14 *continued*. Workforce participation rate of mothers by age of youngest child (rounded estimates in thousands). Provinces/Canada (1998 – 2023)

P/T	With youngest child 6 – 15 years											With youngest child 6 – 12 years			
	1998 (%)	2001 (%)	2004 (%)	2006 (%)	2008 (%)	2010 (%)	2012 (%)	2014 (%)	2016 (%)	2019 (%)	2020 (%)	2020 (%)	2021 (%)	2023 (%)	
NL	64	74	78	77	80	83	83	81	83	82	84	83	80	87	
PE	83	85	87	87	86	88	88	88	84	87	88	91	86	86	
NS	73	78	81	82	83	84	86	86	85	86	85	86	87	85	
NB	74	79	79	82	83	84	84	86	86	86	83	83	89	83	
QC	75	79	83	83	85	86	86	86	87	89	87	87	87	90	
ON	79	82	83	84	84	83	83	81	82	83	81	79	82	84	
MB	83	86	86	85	88	86	85	82	84	84	82	81	85	88	
SK	84	82	86	87	87	89	85	84	85	86	86	84	85	88	
AB	84	84	86	81	84	86	84	79	82	85	84	83	84	84	
BC	77	77	79	79	81	80	82	80	81	84	84	84	83	83	
CA	78	81	83	83	84	85	85	83	84	85	84	83	84	86	

Note: In 2020, Statistics Canada changed the way that the Labour Force Survey calculated the workforce participation rate of mothers by age of youngest child. The youngest child age groupings changed from 0 – 2, 3 – 5, and 6 – 15 years, to 0 – 3, 4 – 5, and 6 – 12 years, and only mothers aged 25 years and older are now included. In 2020, data were available for both the previous and new calculations and both are included in the table. In 2021 and beyond, only the new groupings are included.

Note: Comparable figures for mothers' employment rate are not available for the territories.

TABLE 15

Total number of regulated child care centres. Provinces/territories/Canada (2004 – 2023)

P/T	2004	2006	2007	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	2019	2021	2023
NL	151	165	167	172	172	192	192	205	189	186	193
PE	142	131	136	144	143	102	115	119	144	150	152
NS	382	383	386	380	409	332	390	363	359	304	337
NB	357	361	384	415	491	542	605	627	673	697	720
QC ¹	996	1,918	1,986	2,020	2,215	2,612	2,997	3,249	3,563	3,578	3,683
ON	3,874	4,175	4,480	4,582	4,803	4,922	4,361	5,276	5,523	5,506	5,776
MB	567	574	583	595	635	640	666	689	713	718	753
SK	153	173	179	187	222	259	282	310	335	346	378
AB	1,701	1,681	1,699	1,739	1,974	2,178	2,276	2,402	2,789	2,120 (est.)	2,300
BC ²	3,133	2,933	3,095	3,280	2,792	2,864	2,963	2,932	3,099	3,283	3,558
YT	37	41	34	32	39	35	36	36	40	49	57
NT	49	51	67	67	59	59	56	64	62	68	67
NU	46	45	43	45	47	52	54	48	53	54 ³	54
CA	11,588	12,631	13,239	13,658	14,001	14,789	14,993	16,320	17,542	17,059	18,028

Note: These figures represent all regulated centre-based facilities, including full-day, part-day, and before- and after-school child care. Family child care is not included in these figures.

- 1 Quebec's figures do not include the number of school-age centres because they are unavailable. Therefore, these figures considerably underrepresent the number of regulated child care centres in Quebec.
- 2 In British Columbia, the number of centres is less than the sum of individual program categories, as facilities may be licensed for more than one type of program. The total number of centres reported in 2004 – 2008 was the sum of the individual program categories and is not comparable to the 2010 – 2023 numbers.

- 3 Nunavut's figure in *ECEC in Canada 2021* incorrectly included family child care homes. For this table, the six family child care homes have been removed and the 2021 Canada-wide figure reflects the recalculation.

TABLE 16

Total number of active regulated family child care homes. Provinces/territories/Canada (2004 – 2023)

P/T	2004	2006	2007	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	2019	2021	2023
NL	35	34	61	67	77	104	104	155	119	110	107
PE	6	6	5	5	4	4	2	1	3	4	11
NS	34	32	37	37	94	158	224	235	281	168	176
NB	25	45	47	55	87	120	151	188	177	145	127
QC	13,000 (est)	13,776	14,431	15,123	15,304	15,448	15,514	14,687	12,661	9,884	11,251
ON	7,765	7,716	7,524	7,822	7,071	6,142	5,765	3,765	3,918	3,210	3,524
MB	591	588	551	518	468	420	426	425	448	443	404 ¹
SK	291	290	276	275	269	245	243	226	238	242	346 ²
AB	1,741	2,694	2,694	Not available ³	Not available ³	2,781	2,042	1,999	1,892	1,801	2,515 ⁴
BC	2,525	2,067	2,097	2,125	2,254	2,213	2,071	1,700	1,700	1,755	1,694
YT	43	41	39	32	35	30	30	23	23	22	20
NT	32	44	43	50	49	49	50	40	51	51	40
NU	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	1	1	1	2	5	6
CA	26,088	27,333	27,805	26,109	25,712	27,715	26,623	23,445	21,513	17,840	20,221

1 Manitoba figures include 370 individually licensed family child care homes and 34 group family homes.

2 Saskatchewan figures include 109 individually licensed family child care homes and 237 group family homes.

3 Alberta provided the number of agencies in 2008 and 2010 but not the number of providers.

4 Alberta figures include 2,500 individually licensed family child care homes and 15 group family child care homes.

TABLE 17

Total spending for regulated child care by provinces/territories (rounded in millions). Provinces/territories/Canada (1992 – 2023)

P/T	1992 (\$)	1995 (\$)	1998 (\$)	2001 (\$)	2003 – 2004 (\$)	2005 – 2006 (\$)	2007 – 2008 (\$)	2009 – 2010 (\$)	2011 – 2012 (\$)	2013 – 2014 (\$)	2015 – 2016 (\$)	2018 – 2019 (\$)	2020 – 2021 (\$)	2022 – 2023 (\$)
NL	1.7	3.0	3.3	7.8	9.6	12.3	19.8	20.5	21.2	21.2 ¹	39.3	47.7	61	84
PE ²	2.8	1.7	2.6	4.2	4.7	4.7	6.2	6.4	12.5	12.1	11.8	19.1	32.1	54
NS	11.4	11.8	15.7	12.9	19.8	23.7	37.2	39.0	43.2	46.2	42.9	65	76	148
NB	3.7	3.2	5.5	11.8	13.9	22.5	26.2	28.9	35.0	38.7	42.2	72	91	165
QC	141	204	300	1,092	1,560	1,679	1,731	1,999 ³	1,999	2,485	2,559	2,654	3,067	3,203
ON	420	542	471	452	497	534	780	802	865	960	1,170	1,894	1,839	3,345
MB	42.2	45.2	45.2	63	73	86	106	117	134	139	157	174	175	399
SK	12.3	12.7	15.8	16.4	19.6	22.8	47.1	54	63	65	65	85	90	219
AB	67	68	54	58	54	73	106	191	258	263	264	351	281	975
BC	56	99	129	165	141	176	217	228	227	227	231	498	791	1,172
YT	2.4	4.2	4.8	4.4	5.2	5.4	6.4	7.4	7.7	7.7	6.3	9.5	12.3	29.9
NT	2.3	1.7	2.3	1.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5 ⁴	4.5	4.5	6.9	10.0	12.3
NU ⁵	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	1.9	1.8	2.3	2.5	2.8	3.0	2.6	3.7	5.2	8.0	11.7
CA	762	995	1,049	1,890	2,402	2,940	3,087	3,497	3,671	4,273	4,596	5,881	6,534	9,818

Note: Due to the impact of COVID-19, the amounts for 2020 – 2021 are not comparable to previous years and should not be used that way. The figures in the 2020 – 2021 column represent each jurisdiction's spending for regulated child care plus its share of Safe Restart (federal) child care funding. Beginning in March 2020, programs were ordered closed by public health authorities for approximately six months and experienced low enrolment for the rest of the year. The provinces/territories (P/T) took varying approaches to child care funding during this time. Each jurisdiction also received unprecedented one-time earmarked federal Safe Restart funds (totalling \$625 million) for child care in that year. Further details can be found in the Funding section in each P/T's section in this report.

Note: Total spending by provinces/territories includes both their dollars and their share of federal transfer funds.

Note: Figures over \$50 million have been rounded up to the nearest million.

- Figures for Newfoundland and Labrador were not available for 2013 – 2014; the 2011 – 2012 figures were used in this table for 2013 – 2014.
- Prince Edward Island introduced publicly funded part-day kindergarten in September 2000 for the first time as part of regulated child care. In 2010, kindergarten moved to the public education system. For the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions, part-day kindergarten spaces were not included in the totals from 2001 – 2010.
- Quebec's figure includes funding for before- and after-school care for 2007 – 2008, as information was not available for 2009 – 2010.
- Figures for the Northwest Territories were not available in 2012; their 2010 figures were used instead.
- This information is not applicable for Nunavut before 1999 when it became a territory separate from the Northwest Territories.

TABLE 18

Percent of regulated full- and part-day centre spaces for children 0 – 12 years that were for-profit. Provinces/territories/Canada (1992 – 2023)

P/T	1992 (%)	1995 (%)	1998 (%)	2001 (%)	2004 (%)	2006 (%)	2008 (%)	2010 (%)	2012 (%)	2014 (%)	2016 (%)	2019 (%)	2021 (%)	2023 (%)
NL	78	66	61	64	73	69	70	72	65	65	72	70	70	67
PE ¹	35	32	42	46	70	56	58	58	80	64	59	65	63	65
NS	40	40	43	43	45	46	50	52	53	55	55	56	55	51
NB ²	43	40	Not available	Not available	70	64	67	62	62	63	62	65	66	66
QC	18	18	14	14	12	13	14	17	22	19	20	20	21	20 ^{3,4}
ON	24	20	17	17	22	23	24	25	25	24	22	21	21	21
MB	10	12	13	8	8	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.5
SK	6	2	1	1	0	0.6	0	0	0.5	0.6	2	2	2	3.6
AB	65	62	59	56	54	49	51	50	51	53	58	59	66	65
BC	39	39	40	42	Not available	Not available	42	43	44	47	49	53	54	55
YT	14	25	26	27	26	31	36	44	64	61	58	70 ⁵	57	59
NT	18	8	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NU	Not available	Not available	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CA	30	28	24	23 ⁶	20 ⁶	21 ⁶	25	28	29	26	27	28	29	29

Note: This table includes licensed or regulated full-day centres, part-day centres (nursery school/preschool), and before- and after-school centres.

1 Prince Edward Island introduced publicly funded part-day kindergarten in September 2000 for the first time as part of regulated child care. In 2010, kindergarten moved to the public education system. For the purpose of comparison with other jurisdictions, part-day kindergarten spaces were not included in the totals from 2001 – 2010.

2 New Brunswick's 2006 – 2016 percent totals were estimates provided by provincial officials.

3 In Quebec, data on part-day nursery schools/preschools are not available. Figures only include full-day spaces and before- and after-school spaces, which are operated by school authorities.

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 The Yukon reported auspice for centres differently in *ECEC in Canada 2019* than it had in other years, thus over-reporting the proportion of centres in the Yukon that were for-profit.

6 Canada-wide percentages for 2001 did not include New Brunswick; 2004 and 2006 did not include British Columbia. Both provinces had substantial for-profit child care sectors.

TABLE 19

Federal child care funding under the Multilateral Framework Agreement (rounded in millions). Provinces/territories/Canada (2017 – 2024)

P/T	2017 – 2018 (\$)	2018 – 2019 (\$)	2019 – 2020 (\$)	2020 – 2021 (\$)	2021 – 2022 (\$)	2022 – 2023 (\$)	2023 – 2024 (\$)
NL	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.1	8.7	9.3
PE	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.6	4.2	4.3
NS	11.8	11.8	11.8	11.6	11.7	15.1	16.3
NB	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.7	9.7	12.4	13.2
QC ¹	87	87	87	86	86	113	122
ON ²	145	145	145	147	147	195	212
MB	15.6	15.6	15.6	15.6	15.5	20.0	21.6
SK	13.8	13.8	13.8	13.7	13.5	17.3	18.3
AB	45.6	45.6	45.6	45.4	45.4	60	65
BC	51	51	51	52	53	70	76
YT	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.6
NT	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.6
NU	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5
CA	400	399	399	399	399	524	566

Source: Early Learning and Child Care Secretariat, Employment and Social Development Canada (2024). These numbers may be slightly different from those in the original bilateral agreements as they are readjusted to account for small shifts in population.

Note: Funding amounts provided by the Federal Secretariat on Early Learning and Child Care.

Note: Figures over \$50 million have been rounded to the nearest million.

1 Quebec has signed an asymmetrical agreement with the federal government recognizing that Quebec's early learning and child care is under the exclusive jurisdiction of Quebec.

2 Ontario figures for 2021 – 2022 are not available in the Government of Canada information. Canada and Ontario have renewed the (Multilateral) ELCC agreement for the 2021 – 2025 period. The source for the figures included here from 2021 – 2025 is the [Ontario Annual Report 2022](#).

TABLE 20 Federal child care funding under the CWELCC initiative (rounded in millions).
Provinces/territories/Canada (2021 – 2024)

P/T	2021 – 2022 (\$)	2022 – 2023 (\$)	2023 – 2024 (\$)
NL	34.7	51	62
PE	13.7	20.1	24.0
NS	68	104	131
NB	56	85	106
QC ¹	660	1,000	1,237
ON	1,100	1,681	2,079
MB	129	196	240
SK	114	173	208
AB	401	613	757
BC	352	539	664
YT	5.5	7.4	8.4
NT	6.3	8.5	9.7
NU	8.1	11.3	13.4
CA	2,948	4,489	5,538

Source: Early Learning and Child Care Secretariat, Employment and Social Development Canada (2024). These numbers may be slightly different from those in the original bilateral agreements as they are readjusted to account for small shifts in population.

Note: Figures over \$50 million have been rounded to the nearest million.

1 Quebec has signed an asymmetrical agreement with the federal government recognizing that Quebec’s early learning and child care is under the exclusive jurisdiction of Quebec.

TABLE 21

Median monthly parent fees for preschool-age children in Canada's large cities. Provinces/territories (2019 – 2023)

P/T	City	2019 (\$)	2021 (\$)	2023 (\$)
NL ¹	St. John's	660	543	217
PE ^{1,2,3}	Charlottetown	586	586	434 ⁴
NS	Halifax	861	880	456
	Fredericton	690	735	391
	Moncton	722	759	391
NB ⁵	Saint John	664	738	391
	Gatineau	179	189	192
	Laval	179	189	192
	Longueuil	179	189	192
	Montreal	179	189	192
QC ^{1,6}	Quebec City	179	189	192

Source: Macdonald, D., & Friendly, M. (2023). *Measuring Matters: Assessing Canada's progress toward \$10-a-day child care for all*. Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

Macdonald, D., & Friendly, M. (2022). *Game Changer: Will provinces and territories meet the new federal child care fee targets? Canadian child care fees 2021*. Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

Macdonald, D., & Friendly, M. (2020). *In progress: Child care fees in Canada 2019*. Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

Note: The parent fees include both centres and family child care homes.

Note: Shading in this table represents set fees. Although set fees do not necessarily apply to all centres, if they are in place for at least 50 percent of the centres they represent the median monthly fee for the respective province/territory.

- Four jurisdictions had set fees before 2023 (CWELCC). In Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, and Manitoba, at least half the child care spaces were at provincially set fees before 2021; Prince Edward Island and Manitoba's set fees at that time varied by age group. In 2014, Newfoundland and Labrador's set fees were for centres choosing to participate in the Operating Grant program.
- Prince Edward Island had begun using set fees for Early Years Centres (EYCs) by 2014. In 2014, there were 22 full-day EYCs and 45 non-EYC centres. By 2016, there were 44 EYCs and 21 non-EYC full-day programs.
- Prince Edward Island further reduced its set parent fees to \$10/day for all children 0 – 5 years on January 1, 2024.
- Prince Edward Island fees only include child care centre fees.
- New Brunswick's set fees vary by age group and by the community.
- Quebec, which began its set fee program for non-profits and some for-profits in 1997, has an additional, substantial for-profit market fee sector (no set fees). In the 2021 survey, the median monthly market fees for a preschool-age child in this sector in Quebec cities were Gatineau – \$977; Laval – \$868; Longueuil – \$933; Montreal – \$846; and Quebec City – \$1,085. Non-set fee centres are not funded, but parents receive a provincial tax credit to offset their fees.
- In British Columbia, about 10% of the spaces had a set fee of \$217/month in 2023.

See next page for continuation of table

Table 21 *continued*. Median monthly parent fees for preschool-age children in Canada’s large cities. Provinces/territories (2019 – 2023)

P/T	City	2019 (\$)	2021 (\$)	2023 (\$)
	Brampton	955	1,150	561
	Hamilton	825	1,023	499
	Kitchener	1,020	1,072	512
	London	1,055	1,085	523
	Markham	1,180	1,200	600
	Mississauga	1,042	1,194	550
	Oakville	1,210	1,248	617
	Ottawa	1,010	1,031	519
	Richmond Hill	1,100	1,200	570
	Toronto	1,207	1,300	637
	Vaughn	1,120	1,199	625
	ON	Windsor	662	792
MB ¹	Winnipeg	451	451	217
	Regina	620	625	217
SK	Saskatoon	740	755	217

Source: Macdonald, D., & Friendly, M. (2023). *Measuring Matters: Assessing Canada’s progress toward \$10-a-day child care for all*. Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

Macdonald, D., & Friendly, M. (2022). *Game Changer: Will provinces and territories meet the new federal child care fee targets? Canadian child care fees 2021*. Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

Macdonald, D., & Friendly, M. (2020). *In progress: Child care fees in Canada 2019*. Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

Note: The parent fees include both centres and family child care homes.

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- Four jurisdictions had set fees before 2023 (CWELCC). In Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, and Manitoba, at least half the child care spaces were at provincially set fees before 2021; Prince Edward Island and Manitoba’s set fees at that time varied by age group. In 2014, Newfoundland and Labrador’s set fees were for centres choosing to participate in the Operating Grant program.
- Prince Edward Island had begun using set fees for Early Years Centres (EYCs) by 2014. In 2014, there were 22 full-day EYCs and 45 non-EYC centres. By 2016, there were 44 EYCs and 21 non-EYC full-day programs.
- Prince Edward Island further reduced its set parent fees to \$10/day for all children 0 – 5 years on January 1, 2024.
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- New Brunswick’s set fees vary by age group and by the community.
- Quebec, which began its set fee program for non-profits and some for-profits in 1997, has an additional, substantial for-profit market fee sector (no set fees). In the 2021 survey, the median monthly market fees for a preschool-age child in this sector in Quebec cities were Gatineau – \$977; Laval – \$868; Longueuil – \$933; Montreal – \$846; and Quebec City – \$1,085. Non-set fee centres are not funded, but parents receive a provincial tax credit to offset their fees.
- In British Columbia, about 10% of the spaces had a set fee of \$217/month in 2023.

See next page for continuation of table

Table 21 *continued*. Median monthly parent fees for preschool-age children in Canada’s large cities. Provinces/territories (2019 – 2023)

P/T	City	2019 (\$)	2021 (\$)	2023 (\$)
AB	Calgary	1,075	1,150	810
	Edmonton	875	1,025	535
	Lethbridge	830	865	550
	Burnaby	850	890	655
	Kelowna	810	900	490
	Richmond	955	1,275	800
	Surrey	850	925	666
BC ⁷	Vancouver	954	1,015	530
YT	Whitehorse	835	195	220
NT	Yellowknife	890	930	346
NU	Iqaluit	1,213	1,194	217

Source: Macdonald, D., & Friendly, M. (2023). *Measuring Matters: Assessing Canada’s progress toward \$10-a-day child care for all*. Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

Macdonald, D., & Friendly, M. (2022). *Game Changer: Will provinces and territories meet the new federal child care fee targets? Canadian child care fees 2021*. Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

Macdonald, D., & Friendly, M. (2020). *In progress: Child care fees in Canada 2019*. Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

Note: The parent fees include both centres and family child care homes.

Note: Shading in this table represents set fees. Although set fees do not necessarily apply to all centres, if they are in place for at least 50 percent of the centres they represent the median monthly fee for the respective province/territory.

- Four jurisdictions had set fees before 2023 (CWELCC). In Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, and Manitoba, at least half the child care spaces were at provincially set fees before 2021; Prince Edward Island and Manitoba’s set fees at that time varied by age group. In 2014, Newfoundland and Labrador’s set fees were for centres choosing to participate in the Operating Grant program.
- Prince Edward Island had begun using set fees for Early Years Centres (EYCs) by 2014. In 2014, there were 22 full-day EYCs and 45 non-EYC centres. By 2016, there were 44 EYCs and 21 non-EYC full-day programs.
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- Prince Edward Island fees only include child care centre fees.
- New Brunswick’s set fees vary by age group and by the community.
- Quebec, which began its set fee program for non-profits and some for-profits in 1997, has an additional, substantial for-profit market fee sector (no set fees). In the 2021 survey, the median monthly market fees for a preschool-age child in this sector in Quebec cities were Gatineau – \$977; Laval – \$868; Longueuil – \$933; Montreal – \$846; and Quebec City – \$1,085. Non-set fee centres are not funded, but parents receive a provincial tax credit to offset their fees.
- In British Columbia, about 10% of the spaces had a set fee of \$217/month in 2023.