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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This version of *Early childhood education and care in Canada 2008* is the eighth edition that the Childcare Resource and Research Unit has published since the late 1980s, and the first since CRRU has had the support of a variety of funders. With that in mind, we would like to recognize and extend our sincere appreciation to those who have made possible the continued ability of CRRU to continue to produce work such as this — many, many thanks to the Atkinson Charitable Foundation, the Margaret and Wallace McCain Family Foundation and the Canadian Auto Workers Social Justice Fund for supporting CRRU.

We would like to recognize and thank those officials who contributed their time and knowledge to this data collection and publication. The provincial/territorial early childhood education and care officials made — as usual — heroic efforts to provide voluntarily the best available information, as well as to put up with our repeated communications to confirm and validate the details. As well, provincial/territorial ministry of education officials responsible for kindergarten and officials responsible for programs under federal aegis who were kind enough to meet with us, made invaluable contributions. We would also like to thank, for their support and assistance, the federal social policy officials from Human Resources and Skills Development Canada<sup>1</sup> who have been responsible for the contract that financed this publication and who very kindly organized and made available key data on federal contributions and programs. In particular, we would like to acknowledge the thorough valuable editorial suggestions they provided. We would as well like to recognize the contributions of Nicole Lafreniere-Davis and the Commission nationale des parents francophones who provided advice and content for the section titled ECEC in Francophone Communities in a Minority Environment, added in this edition.

Our “team” included Barry Forer, master of child care data, who prepared the demographic data from Statistics Canada, Billie Carroll, the exceptional webmaster who is responsible for CRRU’s extensive website and Suzanne Cormier, who proficiently assisted with the Quebec information. A valuable and fast-learning member of “the team” was Bonnie Marsh, who worked with us on the report as part of a Ryerson University ECE practicum. And thanks to Judith Bell, for her superb editing and Sonya Thursby, whose graphic design has given CRRU’s publications their distinctive look.

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that the title of the federal department Human Resources and Social Development Canada was changed to Human Resources and Skills Development Canada in 2008. The older term is used throughout the publication as most of the data refer to 2008.

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## ■ EXPLANATORY NOTES

We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the data provided in this publication and to use accurate and consistent terminology and categories across provinces/territories. This was not always possible, however, due to the use of different terminologies, categories, data collection methods and missing information. In some cases, information that is consistent by date or definition was not available; where this occurs, dates and definitions are provided or noted in the text or in footnotes.

### METHOD

The data were assembled from a variety of sources including Canada-wide data sources (identified below), federal/provincial/territorial government officials and from community, published and other resources.

Information on ECEC programs under federal aegis and Aboriginal ECEC programs was provided by federal officials, augmented with publicly available data as noted in the text.

Information on kindergarten and regulated child care was provided by provincial/territorial officials.

The method used to collect data on regulated child care from each province/territory followed a series of steps. First, a written questionnaire was sent to each provincial/territorial child care office. P/T officials then assembled their data; this step was followed by a telephone interview with officials in each jurisdiction. Additional information from community sources may also have been utilized. A draft was then compiled using material provided by government officials, community sources, print and online material. Each jurisdiction assisted further by providing clarification and updates. Further follow-up proceeded throughout the editing stage to ensure the information's accuracy.

Kindergarten information was assembled by identifying and contacting the officials in each jurisdiction with responsibility for kindergarten, collecting information using a questionnaire developed for this purpose. These data may have been supplemented by print and online information.

It should be noted that timely information that is consistent across Canada and over time is often not available.

### DATA SOURCES

#### **Number of children 0-12 years.**

Special tabulation based on the Labour Force Survey, 2007 annual average. Conducted by Statistics Canada.

#### **Children 0-12 years with mothers in the paid labour force.**

Special tabulation based on the Labour Force Survey, 2007 annual average. Conducted by Statistics Canada.

#### **Children 0-14 years identifying with an Aboriginal group.**

Statistics Canada. 2006 Census. Catalogue Number 97-558-XWE2006007  
<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/bsolc/olc-cel/olc-cel?catno=97-558-X2006007&lang=eng>

#### **Number of children by marital status of families**

Statistics Canada. 2006 Census. Catalogue Number 97-553-XWE2006011  
<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/bsolc/olc-cel/olc-cel?catno=97-553-X2006011&lang=eng>

### **Number of children by mother tongue**

Statistics Canada. 2006 Census. Catalogue Number 97-555-XWE2006021  
<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/bsolc/olc-cel/olc-cel?catno=97-555-X2006021&lang=eng>

### **Children 0-14 years with disabilities**

Statistics Canada. Participation and Activity Limitation Survey 2006.  
Analytic Paper, Catalogue Number 89-628-XIE - No. 003  
<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-628-x/89-628-x2007003-eng.pdf>

The Participation and Activity Limitation Survey uses the World Health Organization's (WHO) framework of disability provided by the International Classification of Functioning (ICF). This framework defines disability as the relationship between body structures and functions, daily activities and social participation, while recognizing the role of environmental factors.

For the purpose of PALS, persons with disabilities are those who reported difficulties with daily living activities, or who indicated that a physical or mental condition or health problem reduced the kind or amount of activities they could do. The respondents' answers to the disability questions represent their perception of the situation and are therefore subjective.

### **Number and percentage of children living below the LICO**

Special tabulation based on the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics master file, 2006. Conducted by Statistics Canada.

### **Workforce participation of mothers by age of youngest child**

Statistics Canada. Labour force historical review, file CD2T04AN

These figures include employed and unemployed women by age of child. These two categories are considered to be in the labour force. These figures do not include women who are not in the paid labour force (e.g. students or individuals enrolled in a training program, or other guardians responsible for children)

### **Family-related leave**

Length of maternity, parental and adoption leave in Employment Standards Legislation (unpaid). Table from Labour Law Analysis, Strategic Policy and International Labour Affairs, Labour Program. Human Resources Development Canada (February 18, 2002).

Ad Hoc Committee on Work-Life Balance. (2002). Work-life balance in Canada: A report to Ministers Responsible for Labour in Canada. Chapter II: The legislative framework. Retrieved March 1, 2009 from <http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/lp/spila/wlb/pdf/wlbc-ctvpc-en.pdf>. Updated using online sources.

### **EI maternity, parental, and adoption claims (2007)**

*For all provinces except Quebec*

- *Monitoring and Assessment Report*, HRSDC (2007). Annex 2, Tables 2.8, 2.9, 2.10.
- [http://www1.servicecanada.gc.ca/eng/employment/ei/reports/eimar\\_2007/transf/annex2.pdf](http://www1.servicecanada.gc.ca/eng/employment/ei/reports/eimar_2007/transf/annex2.pdf)

### *For Quebec*

- Reports from Conseil de gestion de l'assurance parentale Québec:
- Statistiques officielles sur les prestataires du Régime québécois d'assurance parentale. Tableaux 5, 6, 7, 8
- [http://www.cgap.gouv.qc.ca/publications/pdf/stat\\_RQAP200712.pdf](http://www.cgap.gouv.qc.ca/publications/pdf/stat_RQAP200712.pdf)
- Rapport sur le portrait de la clientèle du Régime québécois d'assurance parentale.
- 2007 data provided through personal communication with statistics manager at Conseil de gestion de l'assurance parentale Québec. Link to 2006 report below (2007 not yet available).
- [http://www.cgap.gouv.qc.ca/publications/pdf/Rapport\\_portrait\\_clientele\\_RQAP-2006.pdf](http://www.cgap.gouv.qc.ca/publications/pdf/Rapport_portrait_clientele_RQAP-2006.pdf)

### **Number of births and birth rate (July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008)**

Statistics Canada. Births and birth rate, by provinces and territories.

<http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/l01/cst01/demo04a-eng.htm>

### **ECEC programs under federal aegis**

Data provided by federal officials

### **Aboriginal ECEC programs**

Data provided by federal and provincial/territorial officials

### **Francophone ECEC in minority context**

Statistics Canada. 2006 Census of Canada. Children, percentage of target population on total population, by geographic region and by age group.

Commission nationale des parents francophones. (In press). *Cadre de collaboration*. Un report de la table nationale en développement de la petite enfance. Ottawa: Author.

### **Median full-time, full-year employment income for centre-based early childhood educators and assistants**

Statistics Canada. (2006). *National occupational classification for statistics (NOC-S) 2006*. Catalogue no. 12-583-XIE. Special run conducted by Statistics Canada.

### **Table 31 Federal transfers designated for early childhood education and care**

MFA and bilateral agreement figures are from the Department of Finance Canada website: *Federal Support for Early Childhood Development and Early Learning and Child Care*. Retrieved May 2007 from <http://fin.gc.ca/FEDPROV/ecde.html>

2007 budget figures are from Department of Finance Canada website: *Federal Support for Children*. Retrieved May 2007 from <http://www/fin.gc.ca/FEDPROV/fsce.html>

