Supporting Resilience with Strong Public Policy

Dr. Emis Akbari, Ph.D.
Professor, School of Early Childhood, George Brown College
Atkinson Centre for Society and Child Development
Ontario Institute for Studies in Education
University of Toronto
Toronto, Canada
## PERCENT OF CHILDREN ATTENDING SCHOOL-OPERATED EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province/Territory</th>
<th>4-year-old Population</th>
<th>Percent Attending 4-year-old PreK</th>
<th>5-year-old Population</th>
<th>Percent Attending 5-year-old Kindergarten</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NL*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE*</td>
<td>8,850</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>1,016</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NS*</td>
<td>90,703</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>91,893</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NB</td>
<td>147,823</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>149,359</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QC</td>
<td>17,566</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>17,758</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SK</td>
<td>31,295d</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>15,720</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>54,999</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>47,633</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>891</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NT</td>
<td>629</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>606</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YT</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a NL and PE’s plans for Prekindergarten were put on hold due to pandemic
b NS Pre-Primary enrolment was 75% in 2021
c QC committed to full-day Prekindergarten by 2023
d SK population and Prekindergarten enrolment figures include 3- and 4-year-old children
e YT to begin full-day Early Kindergarten for 4-year-old children in 2021 school year.
PERCENT OF 2- TO 4-YEAR-OLDS REGULARLY ATTENDING A GROUP EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY

2017 • 2020

Numbers do not include children attending family day care. SK 2020 does not include children attending private/unregulated preschool.
JURISDICTIONS WHERE PUBLIC FUNDING FOR CHILD CARE IS CONDITIONAL ON INCLUDING CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

01 PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
   Early Years Centres only

02 MANITOBA
   In all publicly funded child care programs

03 ALBERTA
   Early Childhood Services programs only
OPERATING EXPENDITURES PER CHILD CARE SPACE AND PER CHILD IN SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Calculation based on most recent available enrolment figures.
*QC does not include school-age child care. Funding only reflects spending on spaces for children 0 to <5.
IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC
Canada was not doing well before COVID-19

UNICEF Report Card 16

How do the children and youth of Canada stand?

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EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT
Many young people in Canada got good grades, but school is not always a place of support and inclusion:

OVERALL RANK: 18th

Almost 1 in 2 young people do not have basic reading and math skills by age 15.

PHYSICAL HEALTH AND SURVIVAL
Canada is falling behind in fundamental aspects of child health:

OVERALL RANK: 30th

26% of young people have difficulty making friends.

MENTAL HEALTH AND HAPPINESS
A striking number of children in Canada are unhappy:

OVERALL RANK: 31st

Almost 1 in 4 children has low life satisfaction.

Netherlands
RANKED 1st

Canada
RANKED 30th

Chile
RANKED 38th

Almost 1 in 3 children is overweight or obese.

Canada has one of the highest rates of adolescent suicide.

CANADA RANK: 35th

Almost 1 in 4 children has low life satisfaction.

CANADA RANK: 26th

Canada’s rate of infant mortality is 0.38 child deaths per 1,000 births.

CANADA RANK: 28th

Unicef, 2020
Inequity Gaps are Growing
we need responsible equitable policies

Justin Wong, age 8, grade 3
Inequity Gaps are Growing
we need responsible equitable responsive policies

Justin Wong, age 8, grade 3
What Families are Facing

Access
To technology

Safety
Increased abuse

Special Needs
Medically fragile, special needs

Resources
School and public library closures, breakfast/food programs

Parental Stress
Income loss, illness, conflict

Mental Health
Increases in challenges
The Impact of the Pandemic
differentially affects those that are vulnerable

Unequal social and economic burden of COVID-19 internationally
Including Canada

Social determinants of health: gender, SES, race/ethnicity, occupation, indigeneity, homelessness, play important roles in inequity of the impact of COVID-19

Long-lasting impact will be seen for decades

Responsive policies to COVID-19 may also be exacerbating inequities

TELCCS centres are unique in Canada

- Toronto Early Learning and Child Care Services (TELCCS) centres are directly operated by the City of Toronto.

- Their primary mandate is to provide high-quality inclusive programs, particularly for vulnerable and high-risk communities, where families often face multiple challenges.

- TELCCS centres strive to meet the needs of families by linking them to services and resources within their communities as required.
TELCCS centres are unique in Canada

- The 46 TELCCS centres have a capacity for 372 infants, 580 toddlers, 920 preschoolers, 189 kindergartener, and 245 school-age children.

- TELCCS centres are geographically located in areas of Toronto that have higher rates of inequity.

- TELCCS are also more likely to be in areas with fewer child care centres. Non-profit and commercial child care centres are less likely to be in and remain viable in neighbourhoods with higher inequities and lower service levels.

- TELCCS are more likely to be located in purpose-built facilities. Studies suggest that quality is higher in environments constructed specifically for the care of young children.
TELCSS CENTRES AND TORONTO NEIGHBOURHOOD INEQUITY LEVELS
MEAN QUALITY RATING (AQI) BY AGE GROUPS AND CENTRE TYPES
MEAN NUMBER OF INCIDENTS OF NON-COMPLIANCE IN AQI
BY AGE GROUP AND CENTRE TYPE

- telcss
- nonprofit
- commercial

**Infant**

**Toddler**

**Preschool**

**Kindergarten**

**School-age**
All staff are registered with the CECE, surpassing legislative requirements. One-third of positions in ON centres do not meet minimum requirements.* Salaries on par with other City staff (non-STEM)

Highly Trained Staff

Serve Families Living in Poverty

One in three families severed by TELCCS have an annual income of $10,000 or less

Part of City’s Emergency Response Program

City partnerships include working with shelters, support & housing admin (SSHA), and provide support for families in crisis.

Visitation Program

TELCCS are part of the Attorney General’s Office for Visitation Access Program

*provincially-commissioned study
Professional development in TELCCS centres look very different than those of the community.

**TELCCS:** Anti-black racism reduction, supporting LGBTQ2 parents, supporting mental health and domestic violence, indigenous ways of knowing and being, language and language delays.

**Community:** Engaging parents, curriculum development, health and safety
INCORPORATING INDIGENOUS WAYS OF KNOWING AND BEING
TELCCS
nonprofit (no subsidies)
nonprofit (accepts subsidies)
commercial (no subsidies)
commercial (accepts subsidies)

MARCH 1, 2020

Pie chart showing distribution:
- 57% commercial (no subsidies)
- 22% commercial (accepts subsidies)
- 10% nonprofit (no subsidies)
- 8% nonprofit (accepts subsidies)
- 3% other
PERCENT OF FOR-PROFIT VS NON-PROFIT CHILD CARE BY PROVINCE/TERRITORY (0 TO 12 YEARS OF AGE)
2011 • 2014 • 2017 • 2020

SK, NU, and NT do not fund for-profit child care programs. QC figures do not include school-aged child care.
STRONG PUBLIC POLICY AND INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGH PUBLICLY OPERATED PROGRAMS AND SCHOOL BOARD EXPANSION TO THE YOUNGER YEARS IS VITAL TO SUPPORT CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN NEED