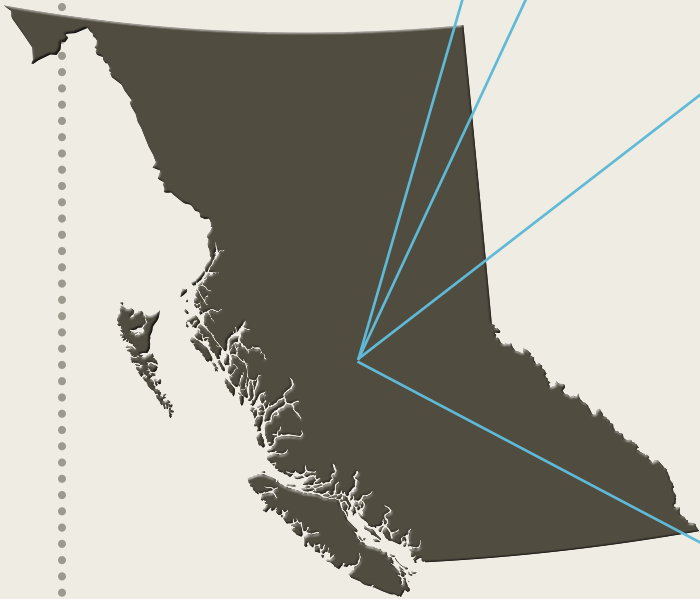
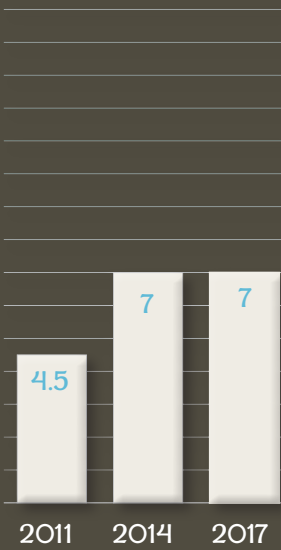


# BRITISH COLUMBIA PROFILE 2017

## TRENDS IN ECEC FROM 2011-2017

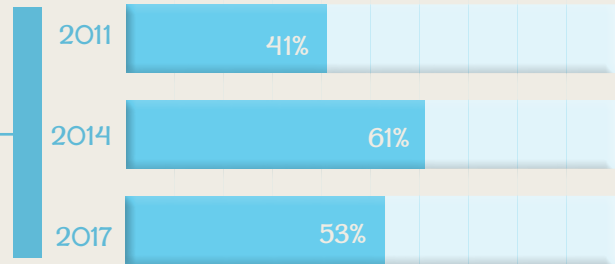
### ECE REPORT BENCHMARKS



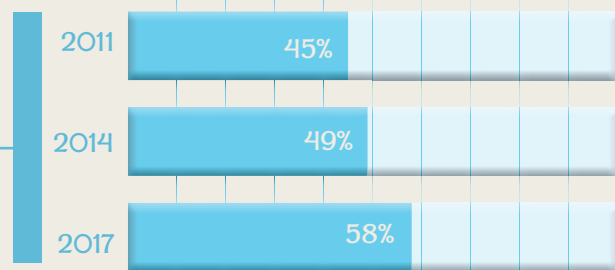
### CHANGE IN ECEC SPENDING



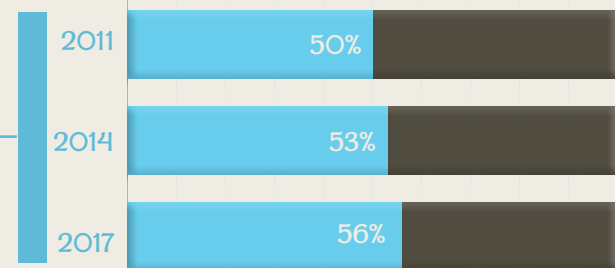
### PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN 2-4 YEARS ATTENDING ECEC



### ECE SALARIES AS A PERCENTAGE OF TEACHER SALARIES



### PERCENTAGE OF FACILITIES (NON-PROFIT/PROFIT)



## GOVERNANCE

Table 1.1 British Columbia Governance Structure for Early Childhood Education	
Lead Ministry/ Department	Ministry of Children and Family Development, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health
Related Ministry/Department	Ministry of Advanced Education Provincial Office for the Early Years
Policy Framework	<i>BC Families Early Years Strategy</i> <sup>1</sup>
Common ECE Supervisory Unit	
Legislation	<i>School Act</i> [R.S.B.C 1996] c.412. and related legislation and regulations including <i>Teachers Act</i> [SBC 2011], <i>Independent School Act</i> [RSBC 1996], and <i>First Nations Education Act</i> (2007). Current to September 2017 <sup>2</sup>  <i>Child Care BC Act</i> (Current to September 6, 2017) <sup>3</sup>  <i>Community Care and Assisted Living Act</i> <sup>4</sup> (Current to September 6, 2017) and <i>Child Care Licensing Regulation</i> [includes amendments up to B.C. Reg. 178/2016, September 1, 2016] <sup>5</sup>  <i>Child Care Subsidy Act</i> (2008) <sup>6</sup> and <i>Child Care Subsidy Regulation</i> (2011) <sup>7</sup>
Related Legislation	
Local Service Delivery	Kindergarten and StrongStart BC early learning programs: 60 school districts including the Conseil scolaire francophone, plus independent schools (for kindergarten only)  Licensed child care: 5 Regional Health Authorities
Community/Sector Oversight	The Provincial Child Care Council

## NEW DEVELOPMENTS

A May 2017 general election led to a change of government in BC, with the New Democrat Party—supported by the Green Party—forming a minority government in July. The new government is committed to building a universal, quality, and affordable child care system. This system will provide safe, affordable, accessible and high-quality care and early learning to every child whose family wants or needs it, starting with infant/toddler care. As part of this plan, government will provide additional investments in the Early Childhood Educator workforce through training, education and fair wages to enhance and ensure quality. Additionally, government will accelerate the creation of new child-care spaces in communities across the province. This government is also committed to reducing the costs of child care for BC’s families. There will be more details about the child care plan in the February 2018 budget. The government has been meeting and working with stakeholders, child care providers, educators, parents, and local governments to strategize on how to implement the plan.

Additionally, government announced in December that the recent intake of Child Care Major Capital Funding provided \$33-million to support 103 projects throughout the province. The funding will allow child-care providers to create 3,806 new licensed child-care spaces, including 847 infant and toddler spaces, 535 spaces in Indigenous communities, and 1,153 spaces on school grounds.

## DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION

The Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) is responsible for the development and administration of legislation, regulations, policies and guidelines pertaining to funding for child care and family support programs and services. MCFD administers the Child Care Subsidy Program, Child Care Operating Funding Program, the Early Childhood Educator Registry, Child Care Capital Program(s), and the Child Care Resource and Referral Program, as well as the Supported Child Development (SCD) and Infant Toddler Program (IDP), and the Aboriginal SCD and IDP programs

The Provincial Office for the Early Years, hosted by the Ministry of Children and Family Development, is the province's lead for ensuring cross-government early years initiatives are carried out and government ministries are coordinated and accessible across the province.

The Early Years Team (Learning Division) of the Ministry of Education is responsible for developing and establishing policies, standards and tools to support effective program delivery and evaluation mechanisms for the early years (birth to age 8) across the province.

The Community Care Licensing Branch of the Ministry of Health is responsible for developing and establishing legislation, policies and standards that licensed child care facilities and operators must adhere to. These include the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act*, the Child Care Licensing Regulation, and related Standards of Practice.

Health Authority Community Care Licensing Programs (five independent regions) are responsible for issuing licences and carrying out routine inspections and monitoring of child care facilities to ensure the rules are being followed. Health Authorities also investigate and address complaints about facilities that may not be fully meeting requirements, as well as complaints about illegal unlicensed child care.

MCFD administers the Early Childhood Educator (ECE) Registry and is responsible for the certification of ECEs and ECE Assistants, as well as recognizing ECE training programs at post-secondary institutions. MCFD is also responsible for the sections of the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act* and the Child Care Licensing Regulation that pertain to the functions of the ECE Registry.

## POLICY FRAMEWORK

The election of a new government in 2017 brought a renewed focus for child care in B.C. The Province now has a Minister of State for Child Care, under the Ministry of Children and Family Development, whose mandate includes the implementation of a universal child-care plan over a 10-year period. Universal child care will provide accessible, affordable and

high-quality child care to B.C. families, and includes additional supports for Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) and an acceleration of the creation of new licensed child-care spaces throughout the province.

## SERVICE DESIGN

### Education Programs

Full-day kindergarten is offered in publicly funded and some independent schools. Children may start kindergarten in September of the year they turn five years old.

StrongStart BC<sup>8</sup> consists of 326 early-learning programs that provide school-based early-learning services for adults and their young children, aged birth to five. StrongStart BC Early Learning Centres are located in school facilities and operate five days per week, for a minimum of three hours per day. StrongStart BC Outreach Programs provide quality early learning experiences for children in rural and remote communities. Outreach programs operate on a reduced schedule.

Ready, Set, Learn provides funding to host school-based community events for children aged three to five years as an introduction to kindergarten.

## REGULATED CHILD CARE

The following programs, except for Occasional Care and Child-minding, may receive funding from the Ministry of Children and Family Development through either:

- The Child Care Operating Funding Program (available to all licensed group and family providers),
- The Child Care Subsidy Program (available to any type of care provider who provides care to children from eligible families),
- The Major Capital Funding Program for the creation of new child care spaces (available to licensed group and family providers creating new spaces, including through renovations), or
- The Minor Capital Funding Program to repair existing facilities or replace furnishings or equipment in order to comply with the Child Care Licensing Regulation or to relocate to another location (available to licensed non-profit child care operators).

**Child Care:** There are two types of child care in B.C.: licensed and licence-not-required.<sup>9</sup>

## LICENSED CHILD CARE

Licensed child-care programs provide care for three or more children. They must meet specific requirements for health and safety, staffing qualifications, space and equipment, staff to child ratio, and program standards. Licensed child-care programs are monitored and inspected by regional health authority Community Care Facility Licensing programs. Licensed child care applies to centre-based and family child care.

### Types of licensed child care

**Group child care** centres serve children aged 30 months old to school entry (kindergarten) care for no more than 13 hours/day for no more than 25 children.

**Infant/toddler** centres serve children from birth to 36 months and care for no more than 13 hours/day for no more than 12 children.

**Multi-aged child** care centres serve children from birth to age 12 in groups of eight children, staffed by a certified ECE. No more than three children may be under 36 months, and no more than one child may be younger than 12 months.

**School-age care** serves school-aged children up to age 12 (including kindergarten) outside of normal school hours, including during school vacations. It may be provided for no more than 13 hours/day for no more than 24 children (if kindergarten or Grade 1 children are present) and no more than 30 children (if all children are in Grade 2 or higher).

**Preschools** serve children aged 30 months to kindergarten. These operate for a maximum of four hours per day for no more than 20 children, typically during the school year.

**Family child care** is provided in a private home for no more than seven children, aged birth to 12 years, including the provider's own children under the age of 12. The care provider must reside in the same location as care is provided. No more than three children may be under 48 months, with no more than one child younger than 12 months. If no children under 12 months are present, then a provider may care for four children under 48 months, with no more than two children under the age of 24 months.

**In-Home Multi-Age Child Care** is provided in a private home for no more than eight children, aged birth to 12 years, including the provider's own children under the age of 12. The care provider must be an Early Childhood Educator, and reside in the same location as care is provided. No more than three children may be under 36 months, and no more than one child may be younger than 12 months.

**Occasional care** licence holders may provide care for a child over 18 months old for up to eight hours per day and for no more than 40 hours in a 30-day period. A maximum of 16 children are permitted if a child under three years of age is present, and a maximum of 20 children are permitted if all children are three years of age or older.

**Child minding** is offered to immigrant families who are attending programs in respect of English as Second Language, settlement or labour market integration under a government-funding contract (funded either by the Government of Canada or British Columbia). The parent(s) must be attending courses on the same premises as the child-minding service and be immediately accessible at all times to attend to the child's needs. The maximum group size is 24 children, based on an age calculation (Eg, a child younger than 12 months counts as 2.5 children).

#### Licence-Not-Required Child Care

Unlicensed (licence-not-required) child care providers may care for a maximum of two children or a sibling group at any one time. If they care for more than the allowed number of children, they may be operating illegally.

**Registered Licence-Not-Required Care (RLNR)** providers are registered with a Child Care Resource and Referral Centre. The registration process includes criminal record checks, references, a safety home-setting review, and completion of first aid. Registered care providers have access to support, training, resources and group liability insurance. Also, families are eligible for a higher Child Care Subsidy rate if they use an RLNR provider compared to an LNR provider.

**Licence-Not-Required Care (LNR)** providers are not required to meet any standards for health or safety. LNR providers are not monitored or inspected. Parents and guardians are responsible for overseeing the care of their child in these arrangements.

**In-Own-Home Care** is when parents arrange for someone to look after their child in their own home. Parents choose how to screen and hire the provider, which will be considered an employee of the parent. Choosing this option means that parents assume employment responsibilities under B.C. employment standards requirements and federal Employment Insurance and Canada Pension payments, as well as income-tax requirements for Revenue Canada.

### Child/Family Services

**Supported Child Development Program**<sup>10</sup> is a community-based program that assists families and child-care providers to fully include children needing extra support in typical child-care settings. The program serves children from birth to 12 years old, with services for youth aged 13-19 years old available in some communities.

**Aboriginal Supported Child Development Programs**<sup>11</sup> offer community-based supports to assist Aboriginal families with children from birth to age 12 to access child care services that meet their extra support needs. (Children aged 13-19 may be provided service on an individual basis). Services are delivered within a cultural model, respecting traditional protocol, language and traditions.

**Infant Development Programs**<sup>12</sup> serve children from birth to three years old who are at risk for, or who already have a delay in development. Programs are available throughout British Columbia. Each program brings parents and professionals together to help children overcome developmental difficulties.

**Aboriginal Infant Development Programs**<sup>13</sup> offer support to families of infants who are at risk for, or have been diagnosed with, developmental delays. Programs are voluntary, family centered, and primarily focused on children aged 0-3 (and in some communities from 0-6). Aboriginal Infant Development consultants support families by providing home visits, activity planning, and developmental and family needs assessments in culturally sensitive and meaningful ways. Consultants also assist families in accessing other health, social and community services.

**Family Resource Programs (FRP)**<sup>14</sup> provide community-based services designed to strengthen parenting skills, promote family and community engagement, and provide stimulating environments for children.

**Aboriginal Family Resource Programs**<sup>15</sup> provide Aboriginal children and families with access to culturally appropriate family-support services and resources both on and off reserve.

**Child Care Resource and Referral programs**<sup>16</sup> assist parents to find child care and offer training and supports to child-care providers, particularly licence-not-required child care providers. Thirty-eight agencies provide CCRR services in 41 locations across the province.

**Aboriginal Child Care Resource and Referral program**<sup>17</sup> is operated by the BC Aboriginal Child Care Society to serve Aboriginal families and communities on reserve and in urban settings to increase the availability and accessibility of high-quality child-care resources and services.

**BC Council for Families** provides a number of family-support and Early Childhood Development programs and services across B.C. It also supports well-established parenting and family-support programs and initiatives, such as Parent-Child Mother Goose, the Father Involvement Network, Home Visitor Training, Nobody's Perfect and the BC Alliance for Young Parents.

**Building Blocks** is an umbrella term for a number of family-support programs and services that aim to increase the ability of parents or other caregivers to support the healthy development of children up to six years of age. This includes programs focused on enhanced parent/child relationships, lay home visiting, and early literacy and language development.

**Success By 6**<sup>18</sup> is an internationally branded United Way early childhood initiative dedicated to ensuring that children up to six years of age have access to resources and programs that support their healthy growth and development. The network brings together partners from a variety of sectors to work together to create child and family friendly communities.

**Children First**<sup>19</sup> is comprised of 45 initiatives designed to promote the healthy development of children up to six years of age by facilitating cross-sectoral partnerships that plan and build early-years capacity within communities.

**BC Early Years Centres** 47 centres<sup>20</sup> offer services across the province that are designed to help families access early years services and information and to support the coordination of early years programs.

**Early Years Professional Development Portal**<sup>21</sup> is a pilot project sponsored by the Provincial Office for the Early Years in collaboration with BCcampus to promote training opportunities across the early-years sector.

**The Science of Early Child Development**<sup>22</sup> is a multimedia tool available to families and practitioners in B.C. Users may engage at different levels through readings, games, questions, and links to reports, websites and videos.

## LOCAL SERVICE DELIVERY

Full-day kindergarten and StrongStart BC programs are administered through public schools in 60 school districts in B.C. Kindergarten may be offered in independent schools.

Regional Health Authorities are responsible for licensing and monitoring child-care programs.

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/OVERSIGHT

The Provincial Child Care Council (PCCC)<sup>23</sup> is a statutory council created in 1993 under the *Child Care BC Act* to provide recommendations to the B.C. Minister of Children and Family Development about child care and child care subsidies. The Council consists of between 14 and 21 members, each of whom is appointed by the Minister, with one or more designated by the Minister to chair Council meetings. Members are chosen to represent the regional and sectoral interests of parents, children, caregivers and communities. Members are appointed geographically with representation from the child care, education, business, non-profit and Aboriginal sectors. Working groups have been established within the Council to act in an advisory capacity, providing input and strategic advice to the ministry.

## FUNDING

**Table 2.1 British Columbia Provincial Allocations for Regulated Child Care to March 31, 2017**

Child Care Operating Funding	\$88,950,000
Child Care Subsidy	\$119,880,000
Child Care Resource and Referral	\$9,728,000
Supported Child Development Program	\$56,756,000
Child Care Capital Programs	\$13,500,000
Child Care Administration	\$38,949,000
<b>Total Child Care Funding</b>	<b>\$327,763,000</b>

**Table 2.2 British Columbia Funding Early Childhood Education/Child Care to March 31, 2017**

Kindergarten <sup>a</sup>	\$440,063,867
StrongStart BC	\$10,420,000
Ready, Set, Learn	\$2,750,000
Early Years Services <sup>b</sup>	\$327,763,000
<b>Total ECE spending</b>	<b>\$780,996,867</b>
<b>Total budget estimates</b>	<b>\$49,082,000,000</b>
<b>ECE as a percentage of provincial budget</b>	<b>1.6%</b>

a Estimate based on 2016 kindergarten enrolment of 38,967 @ \$10,405 plus 6653 @ 50% x \$10,405 <sup>24</sup>  
 Kindergarten enrolment: Student Statistics - 2016/17 Province - Public and Independent Schools Combined<sup>25</sup>

b 2016/2017 Main Estimates<sup>26</sup>



## ACCESS

**Table 3.1 British Columbia Child Population 0-5 Years (2016)**

Child population 0-5 years	271,550
0-1 years	89,790
2-4 years	136,076
5 years	45,684
Total population of British Columbia	4,648,055
Children 0-5 years as percentage of total population	5.8%

Statistics Canada. Table O51-0001 - Estimates of population, by age group for July 1, 2016 Canada, provinces and territories

**Table 3.2 British Columbia Labour Force Participation of Mothers by Age of Youngest Child (2016)**

	Number of mothers in labour force by age of youngest child	Labour force participation rate of mothers by age of youngest child
0-1 year	47,200	64.8%
2-4 years	60,200	72.8%
5 years	17,600	76.4%
Average labour force participation rate of mothers with child 0-5 years		71.3%
Total mother in labour force with child 0-5 years	101,400	

Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, custom tabulation O517\_29 Table 1.ivt  
 Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, custom tabulation O717\_04 Table 1.ivt

**Table 3.3 British Columbia ECE School Programs (2016)**

Kindergarten (public and independent schools)	45,620
StrongStart BC*	33,000

\* StrongStart BC attendance data base

**Table 3.4 British Columbia Licensed Child Care Programs to March 31, 2017**

Spaces by age group in centre-based programs	
Infants (under 36 months)	11,333
3 years to kindergarten/preschool	31,567

continued on next page

**Table 3.4 British Columbia Licensed Child Care Programs to March 31, 2017 (continued)**

Grade 1 to 12 years	35,787
Multi-age	3,372
<b>Total spaces in centre-based programs</b>	<b>103,060</b>
Family child care/homes	13,163
<b>Total capacity licensed child care <sup>a</sup></b>	<b>116,223</b>

Funded spaces only, however the majority of providers received operational funding. Source: Ministry of Children and Family Development: 2017/18-2018/19. Ministry of Children and Family Development: 2017/18-2018/19 Service Plan. Service Plan. Performance Measure 5: Contracted licensed child care spaces<sup>27</sup>

**Table 3.5 British Columbia Percentage of Children Attending ECE Programs by Age Group**

Child Ages	Number of children <sup>a</sup>	Child care <sup>b</sup>	Kindergarten/ prekindergarten enrolment	Other ECE programs <sup>c</sup>	% children attending ECEC programs
0-1 years	89,790				
2-4 years	136,076	39,478		33,000	53%
5 years	45,684		45,620		99.9%

a Statistics Canada. Table O51-0001, Estimates of population, by age group for July 1, 2016, Canada, provinces and territories

b Estimate based on spaces, the ministry does not collect information regarding the number of individual children enrolled in licensed child care.

c StrongStart BC attendance data base

## AFFORDABILITY

The Child Care Subsidy Program is a monthly payment that assists eligible low-income families with the cost of both licensed and licence-not-required child care. Families may be eligible for a full or partial subsidy up to a maximum income level, depending on factors such as: the family size, age of the children and type of child-care setting. The full subsidy rates may not cover the full child-care fee, in which case the child-care provider may charge the parent the difference between the full child-care fee and the amount of subsidy received.

Families with earnings up to \$40,000 net annually with children who are enrolled in licensed child care may be eligible for a full child-care fee subsidy. Partial subsidies may be available for incomes up to approximately \$55,000. Parents or guardians who have a child with special needs may be eligible for a Special Needs Supplement (an additional \$150 per month towards the cost of child care).<sup>28</sup> Government invests up to \$119.9 million annually on the Child Care Subsidy program, which currently supports approximately 20,000 B.C. children and their families with the cost of child care each month.

Child Care Subsidy Rates are available at: [www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/family-and-social-supports/child-care/subsidy\\_rate\\_table.pdf](http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/family-and-social-supports/child-care/subsidy_rate_table.pdf)

## INCLUSION

Special needs supports in kindergarten: *Special Education Services: A Manual of Policies, Procedures and Guidelines* (April 2016) outlines children’s right to equitable access to learning and opportunities for achievement.<sup>29</sup>

Special needs support in child care: The Supported Child Development Program provides families of children with special needs with supports so the children may participate in regular child care. Parents with children with special needs who are in receipt of a child care subsidy are also eligible to receive the Special Needs Supplement. The Special Needs Supplement provides up to an additional \$150 per month towards the cost of child care.<sup>30</sup>

## LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

**Table 4.1 British Columbia Curriculum Frameworks**

### Kindergarten:

In 2016, B.C. began to transition to a new K-9 curriculum. Full transition to the new curriculum will take place in September 2018. The new model is organized around three elements: what students are expected to know; what they are expected to do, and what students are expected to understand. Teachers are given more flexibility in supporting their students to meet these goals.<sup>31</sup>

### Early years programs:

The British Columbia Early Learning Framework includes learning principles and key areas of learning for children up to five years old. It is mandatory in StrongStart BC programs and applicable to child-care settings, pre-schools and other early childhood development or child health programs. Operations and educators guides are available.<sup>32</sup>

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

Kindergarten class size: Class sizes may not exceed 22 students. The 2016-17 average class size was 19.1.<sup>33</sup>

**Table 4.2 British Columbia Group Size and Staff /Child Ratio in Licensed Child Care Centres**

Program	Maximum group size	Children per group	Ratio of employees to children in each group
Group Child Care (Under 36 months)	12, with a separate area designated for each group	≤ 4	One infant and toddler educator
		5 – 8	One infant and toddler educator and one other educator
		9 – 12	One infant and toddler educator, one other educator and one assistant

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**Table 4.2 British Columbia Group Size and Staff /Child Ratio in Licensed Child Care Centres** (continued)

Program	Maximum group size	Children per group	Ratio of employees to children in each group
Group Child Care (30 months to school age)	25, with not more than 2 children younger than 36 months old in a single group	≤ 8	One educator
		9 - 16	One educator and one assistant
		17 - 25	One educator and 2 assistants
Preschool (30 months to school age)	20	≤ 10	One educator
		11 - 20	One educator and one assistant
Group Child Care (school age), if any preschool child or child in grade 1 is present	24	≤ 12	One responsible adult
		13 - 24	Two responsible adults
Group Child Care (school age), if no preschool child or child in grade 1 is present	30	≤ 15	One responsible adult
		16 - 30	Two responsible adults
Family Child Care, if any child younger than 12 months old is present	7, having no more than 3 children younger than 48 months old and, of those 3, no more than 1 child younger than 12 months old	≤ 7	The licensee who must be a responsible adult
Family Child Care, if no child younger than 12 months old is present	7, having no more than 4 children younger than 48 months old and, of those 4, no more than 2 children younger than 24 months old	≤ 7	The licensee who must be a responsible adult
Occasional Child Care, if any child present is younger than 36 months old	16	≤ 4	One responsible adult
		5 - 8	Two responsible adults
		9 - 12	Three responsible adults
		13 - 16	Four responsible adults
		≤ 8	One responsible adult

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**Table 4.2 British Columbia Group Size and Staff /Child Ratio in Licensed Child Care Centres** (continued)

Program	Maximum group size	Children per group	Ratio of employees to children in each group
Occasional Child Care, if no child present is younger than 36 months old	20	9 - 16	Two responsible adults
		17 - 20	Three responsible adults
Multi-Age Child Care, if any child younger than 12 months old is present	8, having no more than 3 children younger than 36 months old and, of those 3, no more than 1 child younger than 12 months old	≤ 8	One educator
Multi-Age Child Care, if no child younger than 12 months old is present	8, having no more than 3 children younger than 36 months old	≤ 8	One educator
In-Home Multi-Age Child Care, if any child younger than 12 months old is present	8, having no more than 3 children under 36 months old and, of those 3, no more than 1 child younger than 12 months old	≤ 8	The licensee, who must be certified as an educator
In-Home Multi-Age Child Care, if no child younger than 12 months old is present	8, having no more than 3 children younger than 36 months old	≤ 8	The licensee, who must be certified as an educator
Child-minding	24, with each child younger than 12 months counted as 2.5 children, each child younger than 36 months but 12 months or older counted as 2 children, and each child 36 months or older counted as 1 child	≤ 8	One responsible adult
		9 - 17	Two responsible adults

B.C. Regs. 176/2010: 202/2011, s. 23.] (Section 34 [group sizes and employee to children ratios]).<sup>34</sup>

## EDUCATORS

**Table 4.3 British Columbia Educator Qualifications**

Kindergarten Teachers	Early Childhood Educators
<p>Four years (120 credits) of post-secondary studies and a degree or its equivalent, including six credits of coursework in English literature and composition.<sup>35</sup></p>	<p><b>Early childhood educator certificate:</b> Basic Early Childhood Education training program, with a minimum 910 hours, including practicum, through a recognized post-secondary educational institution, plus 500 hours of additional work experience relevant to early childhood education, or the equivalent.</p> <p><b>Special needs early childhood educator certificate:</b> must qualify for the early childhood educator certificate and have successfully completed a Special Needs Early Childhood Educator training program through a recognized post-secondary educational institution.</p> <p><b>Infant and toddler educator certificate:</b> must qualify for the Early Childhood Educator certificate and have successfully completed an infant and toddler educator training program through a recognized post-secondary educational institution.</p> <p><b>Early childhood educator assistant certificate:</b> must have successfully completed a minimum of one course of a basic Early Childhood Education training program in child development, child guidance or health and safety, and nutrition through a recognized post-secondary educational institution.</p>

**Table 4.4 British Columbia Professional Requirement and Development**

	Qualified Teachers <sup>36</sup>	Qualified ECEs <sup>37</sup>
Professional Requirement	<p>The Teacher Regulation Branch (TRB), part of the Ministry of Education, assesses applicants for certification, evaluates teacher education programs, issues teaching certificates, and enforces standards for certificate holders. A minimum of a B.C. Professional Certificate of Qualification is required to teach in public schools. Certificates to teach independent schools may be restricted to certain grades or subject areas.</p>	<p>The Early Childhood Educator (ECE) Registry, legislated under the <i>Community Care and Assisted Living Act</i> and the <i>Child Care Licensing Regulation</i>, is the provincial body responsible for the certification of Early Childhood Educators (ECEs), Infant Toddler Educators, Special Needs Educators, and ECE Assistants. The Registry is also responsible for the investigation and decisions concerning inappropriate standards of practice concerns.</p>
Professional Development	<p>Ongoing professional development is expected as a standard of practice</p>	<p>40 hours over five years.</p>

**Table 4.5 British Columbia Density of Qualified Staff in Child Care Centres<sup>43</sup>**

See Table 4.2.

**Table 4.6 British Columbia Teacher and ECE Average Annual Salaries**

Teachers <sup>a</sup>	Early childhood educators <sup>b</sup>	ECE salary as % of teacher salary
\$65,325	\$37,690	58%

a Based on Step 5, Level 5, July 1, 2016 to May 1, 2017; b Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, custom tabulation O517\_31 Table 1.ivt

## ACCOUNTABILITY, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

**Progress Reports:** British Columbia's Early Years Annual Report 2013 to 2015 Activities and Expenditures on Early Childhood Development and Early Learning and Child Care fulfills the reporting requirements as outlined in the federal/provincial/territorial early childhood agreements.

**Program Standards:** Child Care Licensing Regulation.

**Population Monitoring:** The Early Development Instrument (EDI) is collected in kindergarten classrooms on an annual or biannual basis (at the discretion of the school district). The Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) analyzes EDI results and supports communities in interpreting the findings. The most recent online reports are for 2016.<sup>38</sup>

## ENDNOTES

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