

ADC

DAY CARE IN CANADA

F A C T S

CHILD POPULATION: There are 6½ million children 12 and under
There are 2 million children under 6

DAY CARE SPACES: Yet, there are only 84,083 children enrolled in licensed group day care centres and 9,769 children enrolled in supervised family home day care.

DAY CARE CENTRES: There are 2,484 day care centres.

WORKING MOTHERS: The Women's Bureau, Canada Department of Labour estimates that there are:
610,000 children under 6 with mothers in the labour force, and
387,000 mothers in the workforce with children under 3.
There are 1,630,000 women in the workforce with children between the ages of 0-15 years.

PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN IN LICENSED DAY CARE: Of the 217,000 children under 2 in some kind of day care, less than 5% are in licensed day care;
Of the 504,000 children age 2-6 in some kind of day care, approximately 15% are enrolled in licensed programs.

SUBSIDIZED DAY CARE SPACES: Approximately half of all of the licensed day care spaces in Canada are subsidized spaces - 47,000.
Over 80% of subsidized spaces are allocated to single parents.

FEES: Fees range between \$7 and \$20 per day; \$2,500 per annum was the typical annual cost in 1980.

WAGES: Salaries of day care teachers are extremely low right across the country. For example, average wages in Ontario were \$9,000 in 1980, in B.C. the average was \$10,800, in Quebec, \$9,100, and in Alberta \$12,000.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES: In 1979-80, the federal government spent \$40 million on day care subsidies under the provisions of the Canada Assistance Plan. It also spent (in lost revenue) \$55 million in child care tax allowances.

TYPES OF DAY CARE:

Public:	171 centres	6,215 spaces
Commercial:	1,306 "	41,549 "
Parent Co-op:	107 "	3,200 "
Community Board:	900 "	33,119 "

LATCH-KEY CHILDREN: It is estimated that 6% of the children whose mothers are in the workforce are left unattended in the home. Only 1% of children between 6 and 16 are enrolled in licensed day care.

PARTICIPATION RATE OF WOMEN: 44.5% of Canadian mothers are in the workforce. There has been a growth of entry of married women into the workforce over the last 2 decades - 152.8%