

MANITOBA EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROFILE NOVEMBER 2011

GOVERNANCE

Manitoba: Governance structure early childhood education	
Lead ministry/ department	Department of Family Services and Consumer Affairs Department of Education
Common supervisory unit	No
Related departments	Healthy Living, Youth and Seniors; Aboriginal and Northern Affairs; Culture, Heritage and Tourism; Education; Family Services and Consumer Affairs; Health; Housing and Community Development; Justice; Labour and Immigration/Status of Women
Policy framework	<i>Family Choices: Manitoba's 5-Year Agenda for Early Learning and Child Care</i> http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/childcare/familychoices/index.html <i>Early Childhood Education Unit, Department of Education</i> http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/childhood/
Legislation	<i>The Community Child Care Standards Act</i> (amended 2010); <i>Manitoba Child Care Regulation 62/86</i> (amended 2011)
Related legislation	<i>Public Schools Act</i> (1987, amended 1992, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008) <i>The Healthy Child Manitoba Act</i> (2007) http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/statutes/ccsm/h037e.php
Provincial public oversight/advisory	Child Care Regulatory Review Committee Provincial Healthy Child Advisory Committee http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/statutes/ccsm/h037e.php
Local service delivery	Kindergarten: 37 school districts Licensed early learning and child care: 6 regions outside of Winnipeg and 12 community areas in Winnipeg

Department organization

Manitoba Early Learning and Child Care within the Disability Programs and Employment Assistance Division in the Department of Manitoba Family Services and Consumer Affairs oversees the operation of licensed early learning and child care for children from 12 weeks to 12 years in the province. Manitoba Family Services and Consumer Affairs

- licenses and monitors early learning and child care centres and family child care homes according to *The Community Child Care Standards Act* and Regulations;
- provides grants and program assistance to eligible early learning and child care facilities;
- works to place children with special needs into early learning and child care settings through the Inclusion Support Program;
- classifies all child care assistants and early childhood educators who work in licensed child care centres;
- assigns a child care coordinator and subsidy advisor to work with each licensed facility; and
- provides child care subsidies to eligible families to help with the cost of care through the Subsidy Program.

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/childcare/about.html>

Manitoba Education provides direction and allocates resources in support of youth programming and kindergarten to grade 12 students in public and funded independent schools. It provides leadership and support to school divisions in the area of early learning for children up to age 8 years.

The Early Childhood Education Unit within Manitoba Education monitors and supports Education grants, including Early Childhood Development Initiative, and Early Literacy Intervention Grant. Another responsibility of the unit is to provide statistical and research support to Manitoba Education, and to help connect research and data to practice, including the use of Early Development Instrument (EDI) data <http://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?archive=2011-04-01&item=11191>

Policy framework for integrated early childhood education

In April 2008, Manitoba launched Family Choices: Manitoba's 5-year Agenda for Early Learning and Child Care, based on the principles of accessibility and universality; affordability; and quality. Commitments under Family Choices include: funding more spaces; increasing nursery school enrolment; establishing the Family Choices Building Fund to help build centres in school and non-school environments; legislating a Child Care Safety Charter; introducing age appropriate curricula and enhancing quality; introducing a centralized registry to help families locate care; keeping fees the lowest outside of Quebec; providing greater inclusion of children with additional support needs; offering more flexible hours; strengthening the workforce; and supporting stronger parental stewardship. <http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/childcare/familychoices/index.html>

The government announced in April 2011 that a new Early Childhood Education Unit within Manitoba Education would support families and communities as they prepare young children for success and increase the connection between early-childhood education and the formal kindergarten to Grade 12 education system. The Unit was established to increase the connection between early childhood education and the formal kindergarten to Grade 12 education system. <http://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?archive=2011-04-01&item=11191>

Healthy Child Manitoba (HCM) is the Government of Manitoba's long-term, cross-departmental strategy for putting children and families first. With its community partners, the Province of Manitoba has developed a network and continuum of supports and strategies for children, youth and families. <http://www.gov.mb.ca/healthychild/>

Service design

Kindergarten: Children who are five years old by December 31 are entitled to a half day (2.5 hour) kindergarten program. Full-time kindergarten is under review. Attendance is voluntary. Programs are offered in English and Français and as part of French Immersion program and ESL/EAL programming is also offered at the Kindergarten level.

Nurseries for 4-year-olds: Winnipeg's and Frontier's school divisions offer part-time, pre-kindergarten, called nurseries, for four-year-olds. Most nurseries are designated for Aboriginal children and children at risk.

Early Learning and Child Care: Centres include full-time and part-time centres, nursery school and school-age care.. Early learning and child care centres are operated by non-profit organizations or parent cooperatives, private companies or individuals. In 2009/10, 95% of early learning and child care centres were non-profit. http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/childcare/elcc_services.html

Public oversight/advisory

The longstanding Child Care Regulatory Review committee has evolved into a stakeholder advisory committee with representation from postsecondary institutions, Manitoba Child Care Association, Manitoba Association of School Principals and others.

The Healthy Child Manitoba Advisory Committee includes broad representation from stakeholder groups (including early learning and child care) and is mandated in the Healthy Child Manitoba Act (2007). <http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/statutes/ccsm/h037e.php>

Local service delivery

Thirty-seven school districts deliver kindergarten programs in the province's elementary schools. Two school districts deliver nursery programs to four-year-olds.

Licensed early learning and child care is administered through 6 regions outside of Winnipeg and 12 community areas in Winnipeg.

FUNDING

Manitoba: Funding early childhood education/child care services 2011-12		\$
Kindergarten		72,000,000 ¹
Other ECE programs		15,200,000 ²
Licensed child care		135,100,000 ³
Total ECE/child care spending		222,300,000
Total Budget 2011- 2012 est.		13,974,000,000 ⁴
ECE/child care as % of provincial budget		1.5%
1. 2011 estimate based on \$5500/child [Funding of Schools 2010/2011. http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/finance/schfund/funding11-12.pdf] x 13005 children Manitoba Education School Enrolment Report September 30, 2010, http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/finance/sch_enrol/enrolment_2010.pdf		
2. School nursery programs. 2011 estimate based on \$5500/child [Funding of Schools 2010/2011. http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/finance/schfund/funding11-12.pdf] x 2750 children [Manitoba Education School Enrolment Report September 30, 2010, http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/finance/sch_enrol/enrolment_2010.pdf]		
3. http://www.gov.mb.ca/finance/budget11/papers/r_and_e.pdf		
4. Manitoba Budget 2011 http://www.gov.mb.ca/finance/budget11/index.html		

Manitoba: Child care public funding breakdown¹	
Parent fee subsidies	24%
Program funding	66%
Special needs	10%
1. Manitoba Early Learning and Child Care, November, 2011 & Beach et al (2009) ECEC in Canada 2008. http://childcarecanada.org/publications/ecec-in-canada	
Funding per regulated space October 1, 2011 ²	
infants	9,685
preschool	3,595
school-age	1,340
2. Manitoba Early Learning and Child Care, November, 2011	

In the 2011-12 provincial budget the government announced that it is investing \$21.3 million in early learning and child care to fund an extra 25 child-care sites (raising its five-year commitment under Family Choices to 54 new centres), fund 2,100 spaces, including infant spaces, and improved pensions for child-care workers. Of 46 planned capital projects, 15 centres are at school sites and 31 are located in other community sites. The province also announced capital funding to include early learning and child care centre space in school buildings and/or on school property adjacent to schools for 15 school-based sites. <http://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?archive=2011-04-01&item=11304>

ACCESS

Manitoba: Child population 0-5 years 2010¹	
Child population 0-5 years	92,284
Total population	1,235,412
Children 0-5 years as percentage of total population	7.5%
1. Statistics Canada. Estimates of population, by age group and sex for July 1, Canada, provinces and territories, annual 2010. CANSIM Table 051-0001.	

Manitoba: Kindergarten 2010	
Children attending 5 year old kindergarten ¹	13,005
Child population 5-years-old (2010) ²	14,743
% of 5-year-old population attending kindergarten	88.2%
1. 2011 estimate based on \$5500/child [Funding of Schools 2010/2011. http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/finance/schfund/funding11-12.pdf] x 13005 children Manitoba Education School Enrolment Report September 30, 2010, http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/finance/sch_enrol/enrolment_2010.pdf	
2. Statistics Canada. Estimates of population, by age group and sex for July 1, Canada, provinces and territories, annual 2010. CANSIM Table 051-0001.	

Manitoba: Early childhood education 2-to 4-year-olds enrollment 2008-2009¹	
Children whose parents work or study	11,000
Children whose parent not working	3,900
Children attending public school nursery programs ²	3,000
Total children attending ECE program	17,900
Child population 2 – 4 years	41,200
% of 2-4 year old population attending an ECE program	44%
1. Data adapted from Statistics Canada. National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth. Cycle 8, 2008-2009. Special tabulation (unless otherwise noted). NLSCY interview asks parents to identify primary child care arrangement apart from public schooling. An estimated 20% of the 2- to 4-year-old children who have a parent who does not work or study is assumed to have attended a preschool program in 2008-2009.	
2. Winnipeg and Frontier School Divisions offer nursery programs. Estimate from MASS Journal, Spring 2009	

Manitoba: Licensed child care spaces 2010¹	
Centre-based and home-based	
• Infant (0 - 2 years)	19,725
• Preschool (0 – 5 years)	
• School age (5-12 years)	9,657
Total licensed capacity	29,382
Manitoba Early Learning and Child Care, 2011	
Note: A province-wide online resource allows parents to find out about and register for early learning and child care options, including licensed early learning and child care centres, home child care and nursery schools. Manitobaparentzone.ca also provides parenting and child development information.	

Manitoba: Mothers in labour force by age of youngest child 2010¹		
Age of youngest child	Number of mothers	% of mothers
Children ages 0 to 2	24,100	66.9
Children ages 3 to 5	15,100	74.8
Total mothers in labour force with youngest child less than 6 years	39,200	69.8
Number of mothers <i>not</i> in labour force with youngest child less than 6 years	17,000	30.2

Total mothers with child less than age 6	56,200	100
1. Statistics Canada. Labour Force Survey, Labour force estimates of women with children by age of youngest child for Canada and the provinces. 2010 annual averages		

Inclusion

Special needs support in early learning and child care: The Inclusion Support Program funds regulated child care centers and homes to allow children with special needs to fully participate in the program. There are no additional parent fees for receiving child care for a child with special needs. Regulations now require licensed early learning and child care programs to have an inclusion policy and provide a daily program that is inclusive of children with additional support needs.

Affordability

Fees: Median monthly parent fee (infants): Province-wide fee is set by the province in funded centers and homes. In 2009/10, the maximum daily fee for an infant space in a center is \$28.00 (or \$600/month), and in a home, it is \$20.40 (or \$442/month). The maximum daily fee for a preschool space in a center is \$18.00 (or \$407/mo), and in a home, it is \$16.40 (or \$355/mo).

Manitoba Early Learning and Child Care, 2011

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Manitoba: Curriculum	
Kindergarten	<p>Subject areas descriptions are based on provincial learning outcomes or what children are expected to learn. Kindergarten subject area include: arts education, English language arts, mathematics, physical education/health education, science, and social studies. http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/parents/kindergarten.html</p> <p>Four foundation skill areas (literacy and communication, problem solving, human relations and technology) are required from Kindergarten to Grade 12. Each foundation skill area represents a set of skills that will enable students to transfer and apply knowledge and allow teachers to design instruction for these purposes. http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/ela/mbcur.html</p> <p><i>Listening and Speaking: First Steps into Literacy, A Support Document for Kindergarten Teachers and Speech-Language Pathologists</i> (2008). http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/ela/list_speak/index.html</p> <p><i>School Leaders' Guide to Early Years Curricula</i> A concise guide to the curricula provides school leaders with a quick overview or summary of curricular information and outcomes. This information can be used as a springboard for curriculum-related discussions, but it is not intended to provide an in-depth view of any curricula. http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/docs/support/ey_guide/full_doc.pdf</p>
Early Learning and Child Care	<p><i>Early Returns: Manitoba's Early Learning and Child Care Curriculum Framework for Preschool Centres and Nursery Schools</i> A curriculum framework to support educators in preschool centers and nursery schools to develop, describe and enhance their curriculum. This framework helps staff design, play-based, developmentally-appropriate interactions, relationships, environments and experiences to allow all children to develop to their fullest potential. http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/childcare/early_returns.html</p>

Transition to School

Manitoba Education's Early Childhood Development Initiative (ECDI) funding assists school divisions in their efforts to provide intersectoral services for pre-schoolers (birth to age 5) to increase readiness for school. The ECDI Initiative may not be used to fund nursery school or day care programs. Support consists of a per pupil formula amount plus an Early Development Instrument (EDI) Supplement based on

the school readiness vulnerability incidence of kindergarten pupils in each school in excess of the provincial average incidence of 28.3%. The ECDI funding may not be used to support nursery or early learning and child care programs.

<http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/finance/schfund/funding11-12.pdf>

Working environment

- *Kindergarten*: No limit set for kindergarten class sizes.
- *Early Learning and Child care*: Maximum room size is two groups of children

Manitoba: Group size and staff child ratio in licensed child care centres		
Mixed age groups	Staff: child ratio	Maximum group size
12 weeks-2 years	1:4	1:4
2-6 years	1:8	16
6-12 years	1:15	30
Separate age groups	Staff: child ratio	Maximum group size
12 weeks-1 year	1:3	6
1-2 years	1:4	8
2-3 years	1:6	12
3-4 years	1:8	16
4-5 years	1:9	18
5-6 years	1:10	20

Child Care Regulation. 53/2010. <http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/regs/2010/053.pdf>

Educators

Manitoba: Educator qualifications	
Kindergarten and nursery teachers	The qualifications for a permanent professional certificate are a Bachelor of Arts, Science, Human Ecology, Music or Physical Education and a Bachelor of Education.
Early childhood educators	<p>Manitoba has three qualification levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Childhood Educator III (ECE III): Approved post-diploma program or Bachelor of Arts – Major in Developmental Studies, Stream C – Child Development and Child Care from the University of Winnipeg. • Early Childhood Educator II (ECE II): Approved 2-year diploma in early childhood education from an approved post-secondary institution; or a Competency Based Assessment program or the Internationally Educated Qualifications program offered by the Manitoba Early Learning and Child Care. • Child care assistant (CCA): Must have completed 40 hours of training related to early childhood education within 1 year of employment in an early learning and child care center or have already completed approved child care training. • For education completed outside Manitoba or Canada, an educational equivalency assessment may be conducted. • A director of a full-time early learning and child care center must qualify as an ECE III and have a minimum of one year's experience working with children in child care or in a related setting. • Two-thirds of all staff who care for children and are included in the staff-to-child ratio in a full-time early learning and child care center must be ECE IIs or IIIs.

Child Care Regulation. 53/2010. <http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/regs/2010/053.pdf>

Manitoba: Teacher and early childhood educator average annual salaries		
Teachers 2008-2009 ¹	Early childhood educator 2009-2010 ²	ECE % of Teacher
\$73,035	\$34,403	47%
1. Brockington, R. (2010) <i>Summary Public School Indicators for Canada, the Provinces and Territories, 2002/2003 to 2008/2009</i> . Statistics Canada.		
2. Calculated at \$16.54/hour (2010 average from <i>Eye on Early Learning and Child Care in Manitoba</i> Summer 2011) x 40 hours x 52 weeks http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/childcare/pubs/newsletter/newsletter2011summer.pdf		

In 2009, the Manitoba government introduced a wage adjustment fund to create equity for ECEs, regardless of the center at which they work. Early learning and child care centres apply for funding to top up salaries of staff members classified as early childhood educators (ECEs). As well, facilities can apply for funding to allow them to top up wages for staff enrolled in an approved ECE training program. The ECE wage enhancements/recruitment/training incentives offer a \$15.50/hr starting wage. <http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/childcare/pubs/newsletter/newsletter2010summer.pdf>

In April 2011, the government announced that it was increasing funding for pension plans. Now, in addition to funding for the employer's share of pension contributions, a new two per cent incentive is being provided for employee's contributions for workers who want to join their centre's pension plan. <http://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?archive=2011-04-01&item=11304>

Manitoba: Professional requirements for educators		
	Recognition requirement	Professional learning requirement
Kindergarten teachers ¹	Certification, Manitoba Education Qualification Service	
Early childhood educators ²	Classification, Manitoba Early Learning and Child Care, Manitoba Family Services and Housing	
1. http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/profcert/index.html		
2. Child Care Regulation. 53/2010. http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/regs/2010/053.pdf		

ACCOUNTABILITY

Annual progress reports: Manitoba's recent progress reports, *An Eye on Early Learning and Child Care in Manitoba, 2011* and *Healthy Child Manitoba 2010 – 2011 Annual Report*, are consistent with the requirements of the Early Childhood Development Agreement and Multilateral Framework on Early Learning and Child Care.

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/childcare/pubs/newsletter/newsletter2011summer.pdf>
http://www.gov.mb.ca/healthychild/about/annual_report_2010_11.pdf

Program evaluation: In licensed early learning and child care centres, Manitoba is using the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale- Revised (ECERS-R) and the Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale-Revised (ITERS-R) to promote quality in preschool early learning and child care centers. Department staff members have received training in the use of the tools. Through these assessment tools, staff members work with a center to develop goals and/or a quality enhancement plan. <http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/childcare/pubs/newsletter/newsletter2009spring.pdf>

Population monitoring: Every two years Kindergarten teachers in all public school divisions complete the Early Development Instrument for all children in their classroom. The Early Childhood Education Unit within Manitoba Education monitors and disseminates research respecting early childhood development, connects research to practice in terms of using Early Development Instrument (EDI) data to improve programming and student success in early years education and assists school divisions in their efforts to work alongside community partners to promote integrated programming and services to support families and children before they reach kindergarten. <http://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=11191>