

## Market Interest in Child Care

### Downtown

The downtown boundary in particular has six licensed child care services facilities located in the following buildings: Canada Place, Telus Building, EPCOR, Grant McEwan, Edmonton Journal and at 108 Street and 103 Avenue (Kids and Company). Excluding Kids and Company, who could not be reached to confirm enrollment, and EPCOR who declined to participate in the survey, there are 245 licensed spaces available downtown, of which there are 232 spaces used. Additionally, there are 750 children on a waitlist for a space.

Downtown Child Care Capacity			
	Licensed	Utilized	Waitlist
Totals	245	232	750
Average	61	58	188
Median	59	59	165

The telephone survey attempted to get 100 percent response rate from all centrally-located child care facilities. The preliminary survey indicates that the market would support expanding the capacity of downtown child care.

City-Wide waitlist estimate	
Survey results total waitlist size	1,943
Survey results Downtown	750
Survey results Central excluding downtown	271

### Central Areas

More generally, T5H, T5J, T5K (Boyle, McCauley, Central McDougall, Oliver), excluding the six facilities located downtown, have combined 1165 Child Care spaces in 26 facilities licensed by the province, of which there are 1,073 spaces used. 23 Facilities are licensed for Day Care; 13 for Out of School program and 1 for innovative child care program. The values do not add up because some facilities offer both types of programs. 16 facilities had a waitlist, and nine of those facilities knew the size of the waitlist. In those nine facilities, there are 271 children on the waitlist. The size of the waitlist ranged from 3 to 90, the average being 30 and the median being 23.

Central Child Care Capacity (Excluding Downtown)			
	Licensed	Utilized	Waitlist
Totals	1,165	1,073	271
Average	45	41	30
Median	40	37	23

As a result, the data shows that in central Edmonton, there are 1,410 licensed spaces, of which, 1,305 spaces are used. The total waitlist size for this area is approximately 1,000.

City-Wide

While the telephone survey was successful in contacting all but one child care service facility located centrally, the survey contacted more than one-fifth of the child care services facilities in the rest of the city. As a result, the picture of waitlist size outside of the central areas has a margin of error. Extrapolating survey data to the rest of the facilities, it is estimated there would be between 5,500 and 8,500 children are on a waitlist throughout the City.

The 2014 Edmonton Census states that there are 44,227 children between 0-5 years old. The total licensed capacity as provided by the Region 6 Authority states that there are 23,814 licensed child care spaces in Edmonton. As a result, there is a potential demand for approximately 20,500 children, and approximately 7,000 of those children or one third are waiting for child care. The remaining 13,500 children meet their needs through dayhomes, nannies, informal child care arrangements or single income families where one parent chooses to provide full time child care, or are otherwise not shown in the data.

While there appears to be a strong market demand for additional child care service facilities, a more detailed market analysis would need to be completed to assess the accuracy of these estimates.