

# Kindergarten Parent Survey 2011/2012

Using black or blue pen select your answer by colouring in the circle  → ●  
 If you make a mistake, cross it out and fill in the correct answer  → ●

## SECTION A: CHILD HEALTH & DEVELOPMENT

Whenever you are asked about "your child", please answer the question based on your child who is currently enrolled in kindergarten.

- Is your child male or female?  Male  Female
- When was your child born?
 

MM (month)	DD (day)	YY (year)
<input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
- Does your family have a regular family doctor or health care provider that you can talk to about your child's health?  Yes  No
- In general, would you say your child's health is:
 

<input type="radio"/> Excellent	<input type="radio"/> Very Good	<input type="radio"/> Good	<input type="radio"/> Fair	<input type="radio"/> Poor
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- Do you feel that your child has a special need that is not yet recognized?  
 Yes  No
  - Please describe the special need your child has below, if applicable.  


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- In the last year, how often have you or your kindergarten child accessed community food services (e.g., food bank, school nutrition program, Project Share, Community Care)?
 

<input type="radio"/> 7 or more times	<input type="radio"/> 4-6 times	<input type="radio"/> 1-3 times	<input type="radio"/> Not at all
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## SECTION B: CHILD CARE

For the next few questions, we are asking about the MAIN type of child care you used when you or your partner were not available to care for your child. You may have used more than one type of child care but please select the one that you consider to be your main child care provider. Do not include babysitters you used occasionally.

- For EACH age period, what was your MAIN type of care? Please give one answer for each age. If your child was NOT in regular child care during a certain period, please use the answer None - Parent Care Only.

Age of Child	None - Parent Care Only	Licensed Care in a Centre	Licensed Care in Someone's Home	Paid, Unlicensed Care	Unpaid Care (eg. relative or friend)
0 to 12 months (infant care)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1 yr up to 1.5 yrs (infant care)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1.5 yrs up to 2.5 yrs (toddler care)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.5 yrs up to 4 yrs (preschooler care)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



2. On average, how many hours per week IN TOTAL did your child spend in your MAIN child care? If your child was NOT in regular child care during a certain age period, please use the answer None - Parent Care Only

Age of Child	None - Parent Care Only	Less than 20 Hours/Week	21-30 Hours/Week	More than 30 Hours/Week
0 to 12 months (infant care)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1 yr up to 1.5 yrs (infant care)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1.5 yrs up to 2.5 yrs (toddler care)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.5 yrs up to 4 yrs (preschooler care)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. What have been the greatest barriers you have experienced when looking for a child care arrangement?

Check all that apply.

- Lack of information about child care
- No special needs services
- Care is too expensive
- Hours do not meet our/my needs
- Building is not accessible
- Hard to find care when child is not in school - unplanned (e.g., illness, emergency)
- Hard to find care when child is not in school - planned (e.g., after school, summer vacation, PD days)
- None, no barriers to finding child care
- Other, please tell us: \_\_\_\_\_
- Concern about quality of care
- Care is not always reliable
- Transportation is a problem
- No spaces available

4. How important is each of the following in choosing child care for your child?

	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important	Not Applicable
Location	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cost	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Centre/caregiver reputation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Quality of program/care	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hours of operation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Availability of fee subsidy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Knowing other families there	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Child knows caregiver/educator	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to additional supports	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Staff are professional/certified Early Childhood Educators	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. How many different child care places has your child attended? (including current care, if applicable)

- 0       1       2       3       4+



6. Does your workplace or the workplace of your partner offer alternative work arrangements to accommodate child care needs?

- Yes       No       Don't know       Not applicable/Not Working

a) If yes, please indicate what type of work arrangements:

- Compressed work week       Flexible start/end times       Job sharing  
 Work at home       Flex time       Other, please tell us: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Did you or your partner take parental leave?

- Yes, mother       Yes, father       Yes, both parents shared       None

8. How long was the total length of parental leave?

- Under 6 months       6 months-1 year       Over 1 year       Not applicable

### SECTION C: PRE-KINDERGARTEN EXPERIENCES

1. In the 12 months before your child started Kindergarten how often did your child attend/visit:

	Once a Week or More	1-3 Times a Month	Several Times a Year	Once a Year	Not at All
Play-based children's programs (e.g., drop-ins, Moms and Tots, Ontario Early Years Centre programs, Family Resource Centre programs)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Literacy and family reading programs (e.g., story times, Cozy Reading, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parenting and Family Literacy Centres	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Children's Club (e.g. Beavers, Boys and Girls Club)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Music, Arts or Dance programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A public library	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A bookstore	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Children's culture or ethnic-based programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Children's language-based programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. In the 12 months before your child started Kindergarten, were you unable to use services to help your child because of any of the following reasons? *Check all that apply.*

- Waiting list was too long       Services were not available in my language  
 Cost was too much       Didn't know services were available  
 No services near where I live       Didn't have information about services  
 Times did not work for me       Other (please tell us)  
 No way to get there (no car, no buses, cost)       Not applicable



**3. In the years before your child started Kindergarten, did your child get help from any of the following services?**

	Yes	No	Child is on waiting list
Speech and Language Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Blind or Low Vision Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Occupational or Physical Therapy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hearing Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Programs / Services for Behavioural Issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Programs / Services for Developmental Issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mental Health Programs / Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Programs/ Services for English as a Second Language	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dental services beyond regular dental care	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Special nutrition services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Learning support (e.g., help with listening, talking, problem solving)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**SECTION D: KINDERGARTEN**

**1. Did your child attend or is your child currently attending a Junior Kindergarten (JK) program?**

- Yes, at school     Yes, at a location other than a school     No, did not attend a JK program

**2. How many different schools did your child attend during your child's JK and SK years, including the current one?**     1     2     3     4+

**3. a) Is your child currently in Full-Day Kindergarten?**     Yes     No

**b) Did your child attend Full-Day Junior Kindergarten?**     Yes     No

<b>4. Since the beginning of this school year, have you:</b>	<b>Three or More Times</b>	<b>Once or Twice</b>	<b>Never</b>
Attended a parent-teacher conference?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Attended a general school meeting? (e.g., open house, school council meeting)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Attended a school or class event? (e.g., school concert, play)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Volunteered in the classroom or school? (e.g., class trip, helped with fundraiser, helped in library)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**5. What makes it hard for you to be involved in school activities? Check all that apply.**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Times don't work for me/conflict with work   | <input type="radio"/> Health issue or disability              |
| <input type="radio"/> Don't have a way to get there                | <input type="radio"/> Don't know other parents in the school  |
| <input type="radio"/> Hard to get child care for my other children | <input type="radio"/> Don't know teacher or school staff well |
| <input type="radio"/> Don't know about the activities              | <input type="radio"/> Hassle/necessity of police check        |
| <input type="radio"/> Language barrier                             | <input type="radio"/> Other (please tell us):                 |
| <input type="radio"/> Not applicable                               |   |



**6. How does your child get to school most often?** *Choose only one answer.*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Walks/bikes with parent/guardian        | <input type="radio"/> Walks/bikes with another adult, sibling, or friend |
| <input type="radio"/> Rides with or takes transit with parent | <input type="radio"/> Rides or takes transit with another adult          |
| <input type="radio"/> Takes school bus/taxi                   | <input type="radio"/> Takes special transit                              |

**SECTION E: YOU AND YOUR CHILD**

1. In the PAST 7 DAYS, have you or someone close to your child (outside of school) done the following activities with your child?	Yes, Everyday	Yes, 3 or More Times	Yes, Once or Twice	No
Played simple math games (e.g., cards, counting, puzzles, board games)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sang songs or said rhymes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Told or read him/her a story	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Worked on arts, crafts or drawing with him/her	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Worked on the sounds of letters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Helped with printing letters, numbers or child's name	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Done household chores together like cooking, cleaning, putting away toys, setting the table, caring for pets, gardening or raking the lawn.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gone on an outing together (e.g., shopping, doing errands)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Participated in physical activity/family activities (e.g., walk, ride bike, play outside)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Talked together about your child's day	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Played together (e.g., hide and seek, tag, dress-up, tea party)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**2. Have you ever attended a class, workshop, program or event meant to help you in your role as a parent?**     Yes     No

**3. Check the statements below that you as a parent find challenging.** *Check all that apply.*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Finding family time   | <input type="radio"/> Playing with your children                    |
| <input type="radio"/> Getting your child ready for the day  | <input type="radio"/> Preparing healthy meals                       |
| <input type="radio"/> Getting your child to eat healthy   | <input type="radio"/> Making ends meet (i.e. finances)              |
| <input type="radio"/> Having enough food for my family  | <input type="radio"/> Dealing with a gambling problem in the family |
| <input type="radio"/> Being aware of what children should be or could be doing at a given age   |   |
| <input type="radio"/> Encouraging appropriate behaviour and discouraging inappropriate behaviour  |   |
| <input type="radio"/> Assisting your child in transitioning from one form of care to another, or from one program to another during the day |   |
| <input type="radio"/> Motivating your child to be physically active   |   |
| <input type="radio"/> Use of drugs or alcohol in the family   |   |
| <input type="radio"/> Dealing with a grandparent's failing health (mental, physical)  |   |
| <input type="radio"/> Other, please tell us: _____  |   |



4. Does anyone smoke regularly inside the house?  Yes  No

5. As a rule, how many days of the week do you do at least 30 minutes of moderate or vigorous physical activity (such as walking or a sport)?

None  1-2  3-4  5 or more

6. In the past 12 months, how often has your child:	Once a Week or More	1-3 Times a Month	Several Times a Year	Once a Year	Not at All
Played a sport or done physical activities WITH a coach or instructor, other than in gym class (e.g., swimming lessons, baseball, hockey, dance etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Played a sport or done physical activities WITHOUT a coach or instructor (e.g., biking, skate-boarding, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7. In a typical school day, how many hours does your child watch TV, use the computer, or play video games at home?

5 or more  4  3  2  1  None

## SECTION F: YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD / COMMUNITY

1. Do you have access to the following places in your neighbourhood? Access might mean walking, driving your car a short distance (15 minutes), or taking the bus.	Yes	No	Don't Know
Public park or athletic field	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Library	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shopping mall or shopping plaza	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community centre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
School	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Grocery store	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cultural centre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Faith centre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Swimming pools, wading pools, splashpad or water playground	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Family or family-like friends	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



2. Please tell us about your neighbourhood.	True	Sometimes True	Not True
It is safe to walk alone in my neighbourhood after dark.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
It is safe for children to play outside during the day in my neighbourhood.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
There are safe parks, playgrounds and play spaces in my neighbourhood.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
If there is a problem around here, the neighbours get together and deal with it.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
There are adults in my neighbourhood that children can look up to.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
People around here are willing to help their neighbours.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
You can count on adults in my neighbourhood to watch out that children are safe and don't get in trouble.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
When I'm away from home, I know that my neighbours will keep their eyes open for possible trouble.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I know my neighbours	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My neighbourhood is child-friendly	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**SECTION G: BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

*To help us understand the families who are participating in this study, we would like to ask a few questions about yourself, your family and your household.*

1. Are you the child's:  Mother  Father  Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

2. What language do YOU speak most often at home?  
 English  French  Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

3. What language does YOUR CHILD speak most often at home?  
 English  French  Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

4. How long have you lived in Canada?  
 Always  More than 10 years  6-10 years  3-5 years  1-2 years  Less than 1 year

5. In the last 5 years, how often has your child moved to a different home?  
 Never  Once  Twice  3 times  4 times  5+ times

6. Does the child self-identify as an Aboriginal, Métis, Inuit or First Nations person?  
 Yes  No  Choose not to answer



7. What is your highest level of education? Choose only one answer.

Did not complete  
High School

Completed  
High School

College diploma or  
Trades Certificate

Undergraduate  
Degree

Graduate  
Degree

8. In a typical week, how many total hours (including overtime) would you and your partner work for pay?

a) You  Under 25 hours  25-49 hours  50+ hours  Not Currently Employed

b) Your Partner  Under 25 hours  25-49 hours  50+ hours  Not Employed  Not Applicable

9. What is the MAIN employment status of you and your partner? Choose only one answer for each.

a) You	b) Your Partner
<input type="radio"/> Working for pay	<input type="radio"/> Working for pay
<input type="radio"/> Caring for family/homemaking	<input type="radio"/> Caring for family/homemaking
<input type="radio"/> Student	<input type="radio"/> Student
<input type="radio"/> Recovering from illness/on disability	<input type="radio"/> Recovering from illness/on disability
<input type="radio"/> Unemployed and looking for work	<input type="radio"/> Unemployed and looking for work
<input type="radio"/> Retired	<input type="radio"/> Retired
<input type="radio"/> Other, please specify: _____	<input type="radio"/> Not applicable
	<input type="radio"/> Other, please specify: _____

10. Which of the following best describes your family situation?

One Parent  Two Parents At Home  Two Parents Sharing Custody  Other

11. How many siblings does your child have?

None  1  2  3  4+

12. Is there extended family (aunt, uncle, grandparent) living in your household (for more than 6 months)?

Yes  No

13. What is your household income before taxes (including support payments)?

Less than  
\$17,000

\$17,001 to  
\$30,000

\$30,001 to  
\$50,000

\$50,001 to  
\$75,000

\$75,001 to  
\$100,000

Greater than  
\$100,000

Choose not  
to answer

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION**

