



Child Intervention Information and Statistics Summary

Child Intervention Information and Statistics – 2023-24 Third Quarter (December) Update

- All child intervention statistics for the third quarter (Q3) of 2023-24 reflect data as of December 2023, unless otherwise stated.
- Percentage changes reflect the current year-to-date (YTD) average over the previous YTD average.
- All initial assessment numbers and preliminary permanency statistics are subject to change due to late entry.

TABLE 1: NUMBER OF INTAKE REPORTS STARTED

Children and Family Services reviews all referrals to determine if the concerns meet the legal definitions for involvement as outlined in the [Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act](#) and constitute a report, if so, Intake Reports are then assessed to determine whether further investigation or intervention services are needed.

Monthly Average	September 2023	Apr - Sep 2022-23	Apr - Sep 2023-24	% Change from 2022-23
Regions	1,735	1,507	1,753	+16%
DFNAs	151	230	188	-18%
Intake Reports Started	1,886	1,737	1,941	+12%

Methodology for reporting Intake Reports Started has been adjusted to better align with legislative changes to the *Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act* regarding principles and matters to be considered during the intake process.

In September 2023, **1,886 children or youth had an Intake Report** started across Alberta. There has been a **12% increase** from 2022-23 (April - September) to 2023-24 (April - September).

TABLE 2: CHILD INTERVENTION SERVICE DELIVERY

Child intervention services are delivered in five Regions and through 20 Delegated First Nation Agencies (DFNAs).

Monthly Average	December 2023	Apr - Dec 2022-23	Apr - Dec 2023-24	% Change from 2022-23
Regions	7,024	7,527	7,140	-5%
DFNAs	2,056	2,039	2,059	+1%
Total Child Intervention	9,080	9,566	9,199	-4%

In December 2023, **77% of children and youth** receiving child intervention services were served by Children’s Services Regions.

TABLE 3: CHILD INTERVENTION CASELOAD AND LEGAL STATUSES

Monthly Average	December 2023	Apr - Dec 2022-23	Apr - Dec 2023-24	% Change from 2022-23
Total Not In Care	1,388	1,694	1,450	-14%
<i>Temporary Care</i>	2,161	2,258	2,167	-4%
<i>Permanent Care</i>	5,531	5,614	5,582	-1%
Total In Care	7,692	7,872	7,749	-2%
Total Child Intervention	9,080	9,566	9,199	-4%

In December 2023, there were **9,080 children and youth** receiving child intervention services. Of those, **7,692 children and youth** received services in care, while **1,388 children and youth** received services at home (not in care).

The number of children and youth receiving child intervention services **decreased by 4%** from Q3 2022-23 (April - December) to Q3 2023-24 (April - December).

TABLE 4: CHILD INTERVENTION CASELOAD: INDIGENOUS/NON-INDIGENOUS

Monthly Average	December 2023	Apr - Dec 2022-23	Apr - Dec 2023-24	% Change from 2022-23
Indigenous	6,531	6,608	6,534	-1%
Non-Indigenous	2,549	2,958	2,665	-10%
Total Child Intervention	9,080	9,566	9,199	-4%
% of Indigenous children in child intervention	72%	69%	71%	+2%

In December 2023, **72% of children and youth** receiving child intervention services were Indigenous. There has been a **2% increase** in the proportion of Indigenous children and youth receiving intervention services from Q3 2022-23 (April - December) to Q3 2023-24 (April - December).

TABLE 5: INDIGENOUS CHILDREN IN CARE

Monthly Average	December 2023	Apr - Dec 2022-23	Apr - Dec 2023-24	% Change from 2022-23
Indigenous	5,855	5,775	5,829	+1%
Non-Indigenous	1,837	2,097	1,920	-8%
Total In Care	7,692	7,872	7,749	-2%
% of Children In Care who are Indigenous	76%	73%	75%	+2%

In December 2023, **76% of children and youth** receiving services In Care were Indigenous. The proportion of Indigenous children In Care **increased by 2%** from Q3 2022-23 (April - December) to Q3 2023-24 (April - December).

Indigenous children make up approximately **10%** of the child population (ages 0-17) in Alberta.*

* Source: Statistics Canada 2021 Census Data Table 98-10-0265-01. Data release September 21, 2022. Estimates are based on 2021 Stats Canada Census reporting for total children ages 0 to 14 plus 60% of the total youth ages 15 to 19, resulting in estimated proportions of children and youth in Alberta as 9.84% Indigenous and 90.16% Non-Indigenous. These proportions were applied to the population estimates displayed in Table 1. These are estimates only and may not completely account for undercovered/incompletely enumerated areas.

TABLE 6: CHILD INTERVENTION PLACEMENT DISTRIBUTION¹

A variety of placement options are available for each child or youth, depending on their situation. More information on placement options is available at [Alberta.ca](https://alberta.ca).

Monthly Average	December 2023	Apr - Dec 2022-23	Apr - Dec 2023-24	% Change from 2022-23
At Home ¹	1,731	1,920	1,765	-8%
Independent Living ²	198	209	206	-1%
Other Community Resources ³	118	192	136	-29%
At Home / Community Total	2,047	2,321	2,107	-9%
Kinship Care ⁴	3,022	3,132	3,056	-2%
Foster Care ⁵	2,993	3,118	3,031	-3%
Permanency Placements ⁶	103	133	95	-29%
Caregiver Placements Total	6,118	6,383	6,182	-3%
Community Group Care ⁷	706	636	689	+8%
Campus-Based Treatment ⁸	122	151	133	-12%
Personalized Community Care ⁹	72	57	68	+19%
Other Facility-Based Placements ¹⁰	15	18	20	+11%
Facility Placements Total	915	862	910	+6%
All Placement Types	9,080	9,566	9,199	-4%

¹ At Home includes children receiving services in parental care or with relatives or community members but are not in government care.

² Independent Living includes youth living independently from their guardians.

³ Other Community Resources include placements in facilities not licensed or maintained by Children's Services. These placement options include those managed by AHS, criminal justice system or other community partners.

⁴ Kinship Care are placements with a formalized home-based caregiver who has a family relationship or other close tie or relationship with the child or the child's cultural community. These include kinship caregivers supported by a region or DFNA, through a contracted agency or located outside of Alberta.

⁵ Foster Care are placements with a home-based service provider consisting of a family unit and parent model environment. The home is opened, managed and supported directly by the region, DFNA or through a contracted agency, and includes therapeutic foster care.

⁶ Permanency Placements refer to the child's placement in their permanent home prior to the granting of an Adoption.

⁷ Community Group Care are placements in a staffed home-like setting in which homes have completed the regulated process and met the requirements to provide care for a number of children or youth.

⁸ Campus-Based Treatment are placements in a facility that provides intensive and therapeutic treatment care for children or youth with complex emotional and behavioral needs. The facility has an onsite campus for educational purposes.

⁹ Personalized Community Care are placements with a provider that has been contracted to provide a unique program tailored to the needs of particular individuals. These specialized services are required when the child or youth's needs cannot be met in traditional or group-based settings.

¹⁰ Other Facility-Based Placements include placements in other facilities licensed by Children's Services. These placement options include Secure Services placements used to stabilize and reduce danger for a child as well as other Child Intervention placements such as in a PSECA Facility.

In December 2023, the most common placement types for children and youth were Foster Care and Kinship Care: **33%** of children and youth were placed in **Foster Care**; and **33%** of children and youth were placed in **Kinship Care**.

From Q3 2022-23 (April - December) to Q3 2023-24 (April - December), the number of children and youth in **Kinship Care decreased by 2%**, while the number of children and youth in **Permanency Placements decreased by 29%**.

TABLE 7: APPROVED FOSTER AND KINSHIP HOMES

Distinct Count	2021-22 (as of Mar 2022)	2022-23 (as of Mar 2023)	As of Jan 2, 2024
Foster Homes	1,129	1,025	966
Agency Foster Homes ¹	543	515	538
Kinship Homes	2,403	2,321	2,341
All Approved Homes	4,075	3,861	3,845

¹ Agency Foster Homes include Therapeutic Foster Homes.

As of January 2, 2024, there were 1,504 approved and licensed Foster Homes and an additional 2,341 approved Kinship Homes.

TABLE 8: PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

Distinct Count	2021-22 (Official)	2022-23 (Preliminary)	Apr - Dec 2023-24 (Preliminary)
Family Preservations	2,268	1,835	1,107
Family Reunifications	987	914	560
Private Guardianships	283	266	185
Adoptions	195	158	83
All Permanency Outcomes	3,733	3,173	1,935

In Q3 2023-24 (April - December), there were **1,107 Family Preservations** and **560 Family Reunifications**. There were **185 Private Guardianships** and **83 Adoptions** granted during the same period of time.

TABLE 9: SUPPORTS FOR PERMANENCY (SFP) PROGRAM

The [Supports for Permanency \(SFP\) program](#) provides financial support to families who adopt or obtain private guardianship of children under the age of 18 years in permanent government care.

Monthly Average	December 2023	Apr - Dec 2022-23	Apr - Dec 2023-24	% Change from 2022-23
Regions	4,275	4,362	4,311	-1%
DFNAs	322	287	326	+14%
Province	4,597	4,649	4,637	<-1%

In December 2023, there were **4,597 families** accessing the SFP program. There has been a **<1% decrease** from Q3 2022-23 (April - December) to Q3 2023-24 (April - December).

TABLE 10: YOUNG ADULT POST 18 INTERVENTION SUPPORTS

[Transition to Adulthood Program \(TAP\)](#) - for young adults ages 18+ to help them create a lifelong network of relationships to support them into adulthood and beyond.

Monthly Average	December 2023	Apr - Dec 2022-23	Apr - Dec 2023-24	% Change from 2022-23
CS Provincial	1,696	1,461	1,632	+12%
DFNAs	253	254	267	+5%
Province	1,949	1,715	1,899	+11%

In December 2023, **1,949 young adults** were accessing a post intervention supports. There has been an **11% increase** from Q3 2022-23 (April - December) to Q3 2023-24 (April - December).

TABLE 11: ADVANCING FUTURES

[Advancing Futures](#) is a transitional support program for current and former youth in government care aged 18 to 24. The program provides social and emotional supports and funding to eligible students while they pursue post-secondary studies.

Distinct Count	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	% Change from 2021-22
# of Approved Students	948	1,051	1,057	+1%
% of youth who completed their studies	89%	86%	92%	+6%

In 2022-23, **1,057 students** were enrolled in the following program types:

- Diploma (36%)
- Degree (30%)
- Certificate/Trade (19%)
- Upgrading (15%)

Since the inception of the program in January 2004, over **4,016 students** have accessed the program and over **1,500 students** have graduated with a certificate, trade, diploma or degree.

TABLE 12: PSECA CASELOAD

Distinct Count	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Number of Distinct Children	116	124	104

The Protection of Children Involved in Prostitution Act (PChIP) was introduced in February 1999. PChIP was amended to PSECA in 2007.

In 2022-23, **104 distinct children** were served through the [Protection of Sexually Exploited Children Act \(PSECA\)](#). There has been a **decrease of 16%** since 2021-22.

TABLE 13: DECA CASELOAD

Distinct Count	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Number of Distinct Children	5	0	2

DECA was introduced in November 2006.

In 2022-23, **two children** were apprehended under the [Drug Endangered Children Act \(DECA\)](#).