

Child Intervention Information and Statistics Summary

Child Intervention Information and Statistics – 2021-22 Third Quarter (December) Update

- All child intervention statistics for the third quarter (Q3) of 2021-22 reflect data as of December 2021, 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 INTAKES STARTED

During intake, Children's Services reviews a report or referral to determine if the concern meets the legal definitions for involvement outlined in the [Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act](#) and, if so, assesses whether intervention services are needed.

| Monthly Average | September 2021 | Apr - Sep 2020-21 | Apr - Sep 2021-22 | % Change from 2020-21 |
|------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Regions | 2,358 | 2,827 | 2,330 | -18% |
| DFNAs | 215 | 245 | 271 | +11% |
| Intakes Started | 2,573 | 3,072 | 2,601 | -15% |

Previous quarterly statistics report Intakes Completed compared to Intakes Started. This change to methodology was made to better align with service delivery operational needs. The number of **Intakes Started** is a monthly average, and reflects data as of September 2021.

In September 2021, **2,573 Intakes** were started across Alberta. There has been a **15% decrease** from 2020-21 (April - September) to 2021-22 (April - September).

TABLE 2: CHILD INTERVENTION SERVICE DELIVERY

Child intervention services are delivered in five Regions and through 19 Delegated First Nation Agencies (DFNAs).

| Monthly Average | December 2021 | Apr - Dec 2020-21 | Apr - Dec 2021-22 | % Change from 2020-21 |
|---------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Regions | 7,825 | 8,729 | 8,134 | -7% |
| DFNAs | 2064 | 1924 | 2033 | +6% |
| Total Child Intervention | 9,889 | 10,653 | 10,167 | -5% |

In December 2021, **79% 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 2021 | Apr - Dec 2020-21 | Apr - Dec 2021-22 | % Change from 2020-21 |
|---------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Total Not in Care | 1,904 | 2,469 | 2,045 | -17% |
| <i>Temporary Care</i> | 2,348 | 2,671 | 2,444 | -8% |
| <i>Permanent Care</i> | 5,637 | 5,513 | 5,678 | +3% |
| Total in Care | 7,985 | 8,184 | 8,122 | -1% |
| Total Child Intervention | 9,889 | 10,653 | 10,167 | -5% |

In December 2021, there were **9,889 children and youth** receiving child intervention services. Of those, **7,985 children and youth** received services in care, while **1,904 children and youth** received services at home (not in care).

The number of children and youth receiving child intervention services **decreased by 5%** from Q3 2020-21 (April - December) to Q3 2021-22 (April - December).

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

| Monthly Average | December 2021 | Apr - Dec 2020-21 | Apr - Dec 2021-22 | % Change from 2020-21 |
|--|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Indigenous | 6,764 | 6,812 | 6,803 | <-1% |
| Non-Indigenous | 3,125 | 3,841 | 3,364 | -12% |
| Total Child Intervention | 9,889 | 10,653 | 10,167 | -5% |
| % of Indigenous children in child intervention | 68% | 64% | 67% | +3% |

In December 2021, **68% of children and youth** receiving child intervention services were Indigenous. There has been a **3% increase** in the proportion of Indigenous children and youth receiving intervention services from Q3 2020-21 (April - December) to Q3 2021-22 (April - December).

TABLE 5: INDIGENOUS CHILDREN IN CARE

| Monthly Average | December 2021 | Apr -Dec 2020-21 | Apr - Dec 2021-22 | % Change from 2020-21 |
|--|---------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Indigenous | 5,829 | 5,776 | 5,834 | +1% |
| Non-Indigenous | 2,156 | 2,408 | 2,288 | -5% |
| Total In Care | 7,985 | 8,184 | 8,122 | <-1% |
| % of Children In Care who are Indigenous | 73% | 71% | 72% | +1% |

In December 2021, **73% of children and youth** receiving services in care were Indigenous. The proportion of Indigenous children in care **increased by 1%** from Q3 2020-21 (April - December) to Q3 2021-22 (April - December).

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

* Source: Statistics Canada 2016 Census Data Table 98-400-X2016155. Data release October 25, 2017. Estimates are based on 2016 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 9.76% Indigenous and 90.24% 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 2021 | Apr - Dec 2020-21 | Apr - Dec 2021-22 | % Change from 2020-21 |
|--|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| At Home ² | 2,101 | 2,528 | 2,214 | -12% |
| Independent Living ³ | 230 | 274 | 248 | -9% |
| Other Community Resources ⁴ | 190 | 263 | 177 | -33% |
| At Home / Community Total | 2,521 | 3,065 | 2,639 | -14% |
| Kinship Care | 3,197 | 3,164 | 3,217 | +2% |
| Foster Care | 3,194 | 3,437 | 3,312 | -4% |
| Permanency Placements ⁵ | 158 | 176 | 178 | +1% |
| Caregiver Placements Total | 6,549 | 6,777 | 6,707 | -1% |
| Community Group Care ⁶ | 617 | 605 | 622 | +3% |
| Campus-Based Care ⁷ | 143 | 139 | 139 | 0% |
| Personalized Community Care ⁸ | 48 | 45 | 43 | -4% |
| Other Facility-Based Placements ⁹ | 11 | 22 | 17 | -23% |
| Facility Placements Total | 819 | 811 | 821 | +1% |
| All Placement Types | 9,889 | 10,653 | 10,167 | -5% |

¹ Previous quarterly statistics report In Care Placement Distribution compared to Child Intervention Placement Distribution. This change to methodology was made to better align with service delivery operational needs.

² At Home includes children receiving services in parental care or with relatives or community members.

³ Independent Living includes Supported Independent Living Placements.

⁴ Other Community Resources include placements related to a child's health needs, in a Y.C.J.A Facility or those awaiting a placement.

⁵ Permanency Placements refer to the child's placement in their permanent home prior to the granting of an Adoption or Private Guardianship Order.

⁶ Community Group Care are placements previously referred to as Group Care.

⁷ Campus-Based Care are placements previously referred to as Treatment Care.

⁸ Personalized Community Care are placements previously referred to as Specialized Placements are developed for children and youth with specialized needs.

⁹ Other Facility-Based Placements 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 2021, the most common placement types for children and youth were Foster and Kinship Care: **32%** of children and youth were placed in **Foster Care**; and **32%** of children and youth were placed in **Kinship Care**.

From Q3 2020-21 (April - December) to Q3 2021-22 (April - December), the number of children and youth in **Kinship Care increased by 2%**, while the number of children and youth in **Permanency Placements increased by 1%**.

TABLE 7: 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 2021 | Apr - Dec 2020-21 | Apr - Dec 2021-22 | % Change from 2020-21 |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Regions | 4,401 | 4,445 | 4,404 | <1% |
| DFNAs | 266 | 278 | 266 | -4% |
| Province | 4,667 | 4,723 | 4,670 | -1% |

In December 2021, there were **4,667 families** accessing the SFP Program. There has been a **1% decrease** from Q3 2020-21 (April - December) to Q3 2021-22 (April - December).

TABLE 8: SUPPORT AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (SFA) AGREEMENTS

[Support and Financial Assistance Agreements](#) for young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 to help them create a lifelong network of relationships to support them into adulthood and beyond.

| Monthly Average | December 2021 | Apr - Dec 2020-21 | Apr - Dec 2021-22 | % Change from 2020-21 |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Regions | 1,740 | 1,904 | 1,856 | -3% |
| DFNAs | 259 | 231 | 275 | +19% |
| Province | 1,999 | 2,135 | 2,131 | <1% |

In December 2021, **1,999 young adults** had an active SFA Agreement. There has been a **<1% decrease** from Q3 2020-21 (April - December) to Q3 2021-22 (April - December).

TABLE 9: 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 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | % Change from 2019-20 |
|---|------------|------------|------------|-----------------------|
| # of Approved Students | 792 | 883 | 948 | +7% |
| % of youth who completed their studies | 85% | 88% | 89% | +1% |

In 2020-21, **948 students** were enrolled in the following program types:

- Diploma (**33%**)
- Degree (**26%**)
- Certificate/Trade (**23%**)
- Upgrading (**18%**)

Since the inception of the program in January 2004, over **3,482 students** have accessed the program and over **1,425 students** have graduated with a certificate, trade, diploma or degree.

TABLE 10: PERMANENCY OUTCOMES

| Distinct Count | 2019-20 (Official) | 2020-21 (Preliminary) | Apr - Dec 2021-22 (Preliminary) |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Family Preservations | 3,564 | 2,961 | 1,677 |
| Family Reunifications | 1,123 | 1,016 | 684 |
| Private Guardianships | 177 | 188 | 180 |
| Adoptions | 212 | 160 | 133 |
| All Permanency Outcomes | 5,076 | 4,325 | 2,674 |

In Q3 2021-22 (April - December), there were **1,677 Family Preservations** and **684 Family Reunifications**. There were **180 Private Guardianships** and **133 Adoptions** granted during the same period of time.

TABLE 11: APPROVED FOSTER AND KINSHIP HOMES

| Distinct Count | 2019-20 (as of Mar 2020) | 2020-21 (as of Mar 2021) | As of December 15, 2021 |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Foster Homes | 1,168 | 1,167 | 1,138 |
| Agency Foster Homes | 511 | 545 | 536 |
| Kinship Homes | 2,462 | 2,547 | 2,422 |
| All Approved Homes | 4,141 | 4,259 | 4,096 |

As of December 15, 2021, there were 1,674 approved and licensed Foster Homes and an additional 2,422 approved Kinship Homes.

TABLE 12: PSECA CASELOAD

| Distinct Count | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Number of Distinct Children | 166 | 127 | 115 |

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

In 2020-21, **115 distinct children** were served through the [Protection of Sexually Exploited Children Act \(PSECA\)](#). There has been a **decrease of 9%** since 2019-20.

TABLE 13: DECA CASELOAD

| Distinct Count | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Number of Distinct Children | 2 | 0 | 5 |

DECA was introduced in November 2006.

In 2020-21, **five children** were apprehended under the [Drug Endangered Children Act \(DECA\)](#).