

4 Child Care



What is the Service?

Municipal Children's Services divisions plan and manage their local child care system, focusing on the integration of government initiatives, inter-agency coordination and the development of quality programs and services for children and their families.

Municipalities are mandated by provincial legislation under the Day Nursery Act (DNA) as Service System Managers to plan, direct and deliver child care services.

Specific objectives include:

- Providing a continuum of quality community-based services accessible to children, their families and caregivers
- Fostering partnerships with the community in planning and service delivery integration to ensure equitable access to high quality child care for children and support for families
- Providing financial support to eligible families to enable them to participate fully in employment, training and developmental opportunities
- Innovating and building on leading practices



Influencing Factors:

Demographics: Population density and dispersion will vary by municipality. The cost of providing services, in certain areas, to certain populations, will be impacted by unique local and regional factors, such as population and population growth, and low income.

Licensed Spaces: Number of licensed spaces is driven primarily by demand, demographics and population and secondarily by the availability/alacrity of operators to open or expand their current spaces and the Ministry of Education in licensing the spaces. Municipalities can influence growth in spaces; however, given the current Provincial system, Municipalities do not control the licensing framework and therefore, do not independently direct or drive strategic growth in the supply of licensed spaces.

Mix of Child Care Spaces: Can be driven by the cost of care, for example, some operators will not provide infant care as the staffing costs can make this less financially viable/lucrative than providing care for older children. The cost is primarily driven by staffing costs. The DNA requires three staff for 10 infants vs. 3 staff for 15 toddlers.

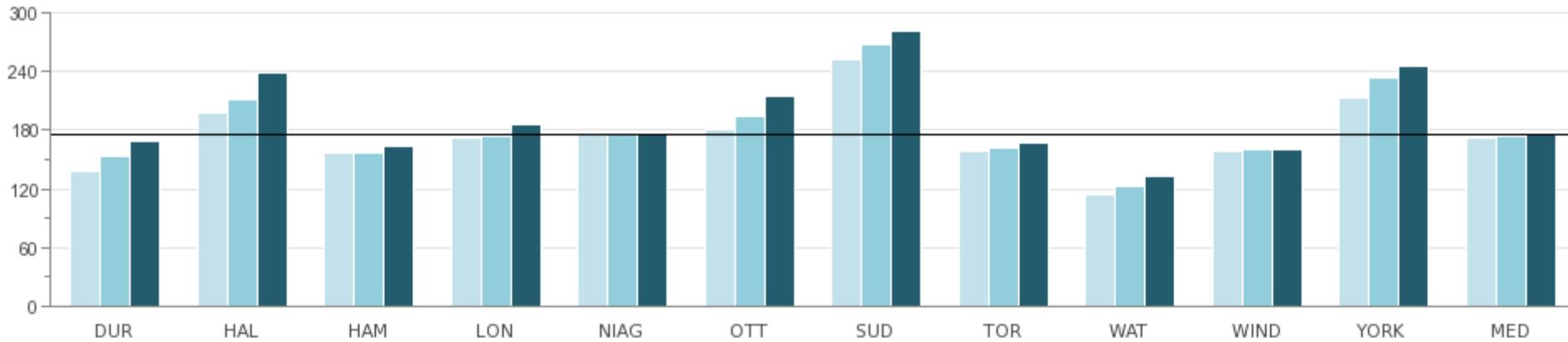
Funding: Provincial funding is the main determinant of the level of service. Recent changes to the Provincial funding formula will impact service levels. Municipal funding beyond the DNA cost-sharing requirements also has an impact on service levels.

Data Availability: Census data used to develop these outcomes is not always current and projections are not always accurate. LICO (Low Income Cut-off) and Child Population measures are impacted. LICO information provided by the Ministry is outdated and difficult to use. Census data is not updated annually which can cause challenges.

Child Care

How many regulated child care spaces are available?

Fig 4.1 Regulated Child Care Spaces in Municipality per 1,000 Children (12 and under)

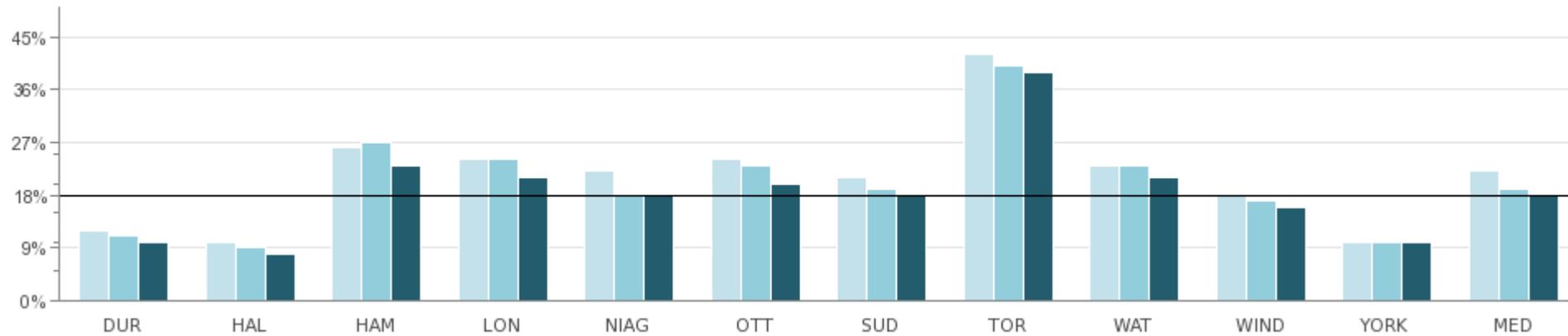


2011	138	198	156	173	177	180	252	159	114	158	214	173
2012	154	211	157	174	176	194	268	162	123	160	233	174
2013	168	239	164	186	175	215	281	167	132	160	245	175

Source: CHDC105 (Community Impact)

What percent of available spaces is subsidized?

Fig 4.2 Percent of Spaces that are Subsidized.



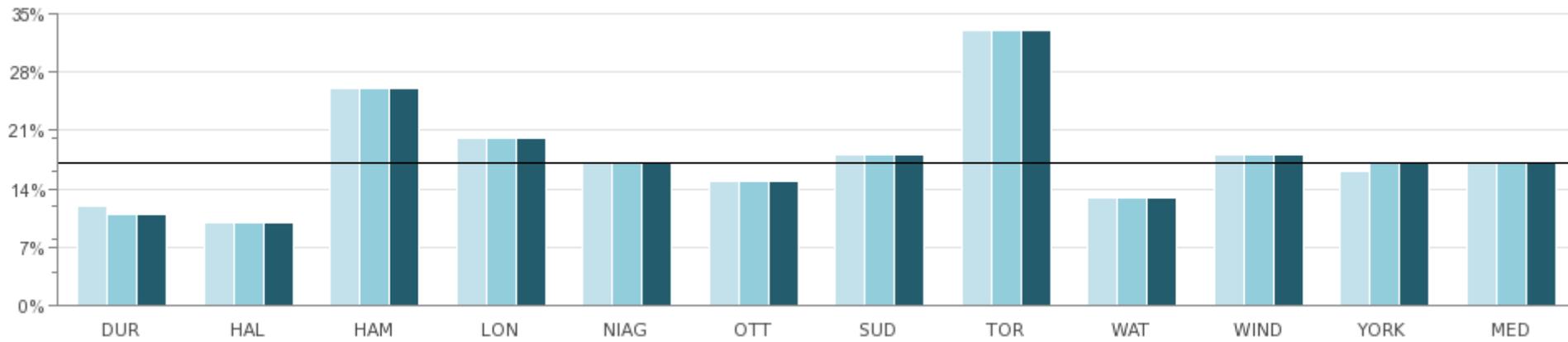
2011	12%	10%	26%	24%	22%	24%	21%	42%	23%	18%	10%	22%
2012	11%	9%	27%	24%	18%	23%	19%	40%	23%	17%	10%	19%
2013	10%	8%	23%	21%	18%	20%	18%	39%	21%	16%	10%	18%

Source: CHDC112 (Community Impact)

Note: The results illustrate that high demand can be indicative of the number of lower-income families requiring child care, e.g. Toronto. Other factors contributing to the results include total funding, the growth in total number of spaces created and the waitlist. (See Fig. 4.3 - CHDC115 for more information.)

What percent of children come from low-income families?

Fig 4.3 Percent of Children in the Municipality (12 and under) that are LICO Children



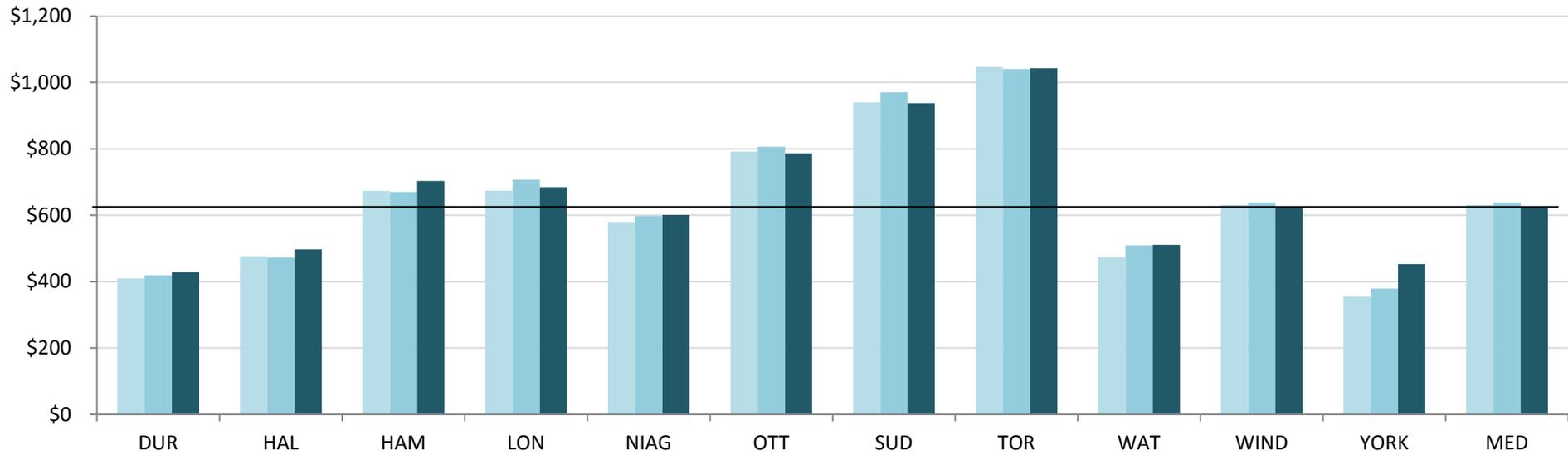
2011	12%	10%	26%	20%	17%	15%	18%	33%	13%	18%	16%	17%
2012	11%	10%	26%	20%	17%	15%	18%	33%	13%	18%	17%	17%
2013	11%	10%	26%	20%	17%	15%	18%	33%	13%	18%	17%	17%

Source: CHDC115 (Community Impact)

Note: LICO population is extrapolated from 2006 census data. Lower-income families tend to drive the demand for subsidized spaces for children 12 and under.

What is the total investment per child in the municipality?

Fig 4.4 OMBI Total Operating Cost per Child (12 and under) in the Municipality (includes amortization)



2011	\$409	\$476	\$673	\$674	\$580	\$792	\$940	\$1,047	\$473	\$631	\$355	\$631
2012	\$419	\$472	\$670	\$707	\$598	\$806	\$970	\$1,040	\$509	\$639	\$379	\$639
2013	\$429	\$497	\$703	\$685	\$601	\$786	\$937	\$1,043	\$511	\$625	\$453	\$625

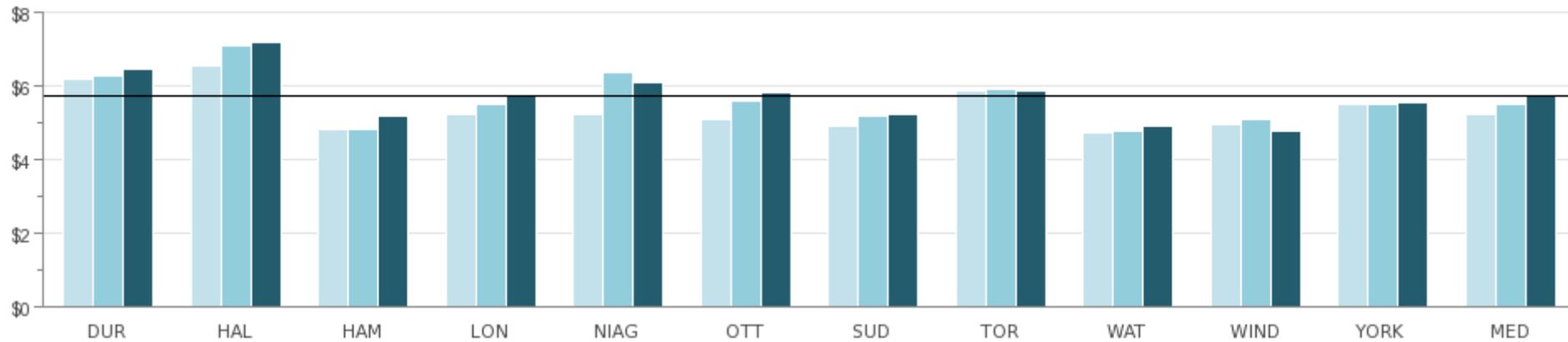
Source: CHDC220T (Service Level)

Note: The majority of funding is from the province; however should a municipality choose to increase their spending; those additional dollars are reflected in these outcomes.

How much does a subsidized child care space cost?

Fig 4.5 Annual Gross Fee Subsidy Cost per Normalized Subsidized Child Care Space

(In Thousands)



2011	\$6,195	\$6,557	\$4,816	\$5,252	\$5,209	\$5,080	\$4,920	\$5,867	\$4,733	\$4,968	\$5,484	\$5,209
2012	\$6,276	\$7,106	\$4,805	\$5,503	\$6,382	\$5,594	\$5,194	\$5,895	\$4,779	\$5,076	\$5,509	\$5,509
2013	\$6,477	\$7,212	\$5,199	\$5,738	\$6,116	\$5,845	\$5,208	\$5,876	\$4,914	\$4,791	\$5,567	\$5,738

Source: CHDC305 (Efficiency)

Note: The annual gross fee subsidy cost has been normalized to reflect the mix of age groups and required staff ratios. A high cost result could reflect spaces that are being directly operated by a municipality as well as a higher cost of care in urban cities. Annual child care costs exclude any general operating grants distributed.