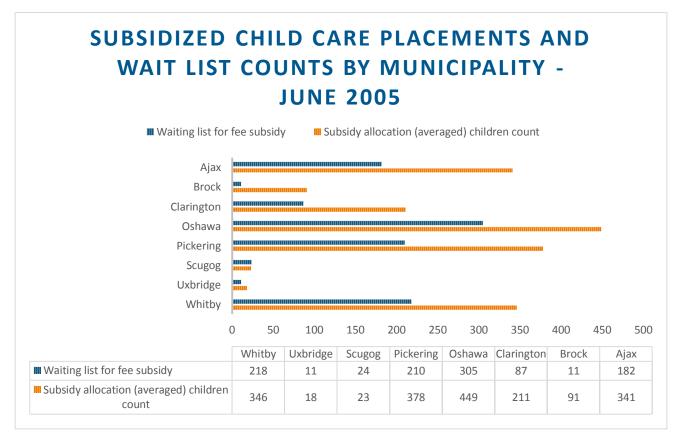
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"Many social programs support families, but child care is the backbone of them all" (National Council of Welfare, 1999, p. 89)



Subsidized Child Care Placements and Wait List Counts by Municipality – June 2005

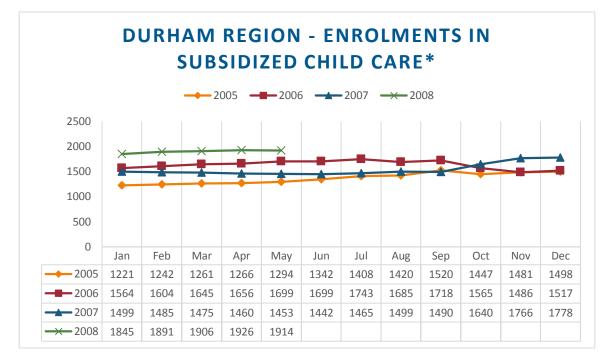
In June 2005, Durham Region had allocated funding for a total of 1857 spaces of subsidized child care. A total of 1048 people remained on the wait list for subsidized child care at this time. Looking at the different municipalities, Oshawa provided the most spaces for subsidized child care which amounted to 449 spaces. The City of Oshawa also had the highest wait list of all the municipalities with a count of 305. The median rate of providing subsidized child care placements across Durham Region was 63.2% with Brock township providing the highest rate at 89.2% and Scugog providing the lowest at 48.9% (Regional Municipality of Durham, 2005).



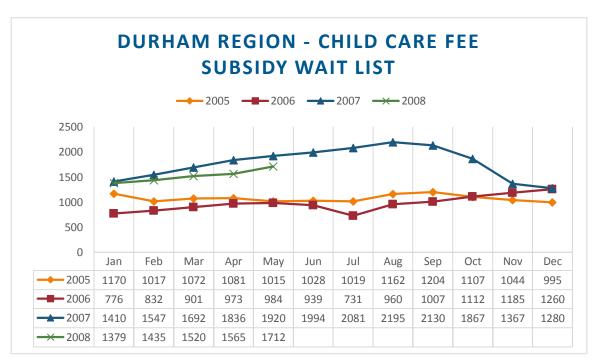
Community Lens has been prepared by CDCD to disseminate and interpret community data as it becomes available. For more information, please contact the Community Development team at commdev@cdcd.org or at 905-686-2661. CDCD would like to acknowledge the ongoing support from United Way Durham Region.



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*whereby subsidy funding is provided through Day Nurseries Act, Early Learning & Child Care, and Best Start





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Subsidized Child Care Enrolments and Wait Lists January 2005 to May 2008

Overall, enrolments in subsidized child care have gradually increased from the start of 2005 to May 2008. A slight decrease in enrolments started in October 2006 and this continued throughout 2007 until October 2007, at which point enrolments increased again. While, enrolments in subsidized child care have increased, so has the need for these spaces. A steady increase in those on the wait list for child care subsidies started in August 2006 and carried into 2007, peaking in August 2007. At this time, there were 2195 children on the wait list. A significant decline occurred across the remainder of 2007; however, the data for 2008 reflects a similar pattern of increasing need present during the same months of 2007 (Regional Municipality of Durham, 2008).

Limitations

The data provided here offers a glimpse of the need for subsidized child care in Durham region. In consideration of the subsidized child care enrolments in Durham Region, the data is limited to certain kinds of subsidy funding and may not capture all kinds of subsidies. Additionally, these data do not address wait lists at individual day cares and do not capture the full scope of child care needs. Challenges for families requiring care for children with special needs, cultural considerations, and other diverse needs is not reflected here. Finally, more recent data would be helpful in providing a more accurate representation of subsidized child care placements and wait lists in Durham Region.

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