

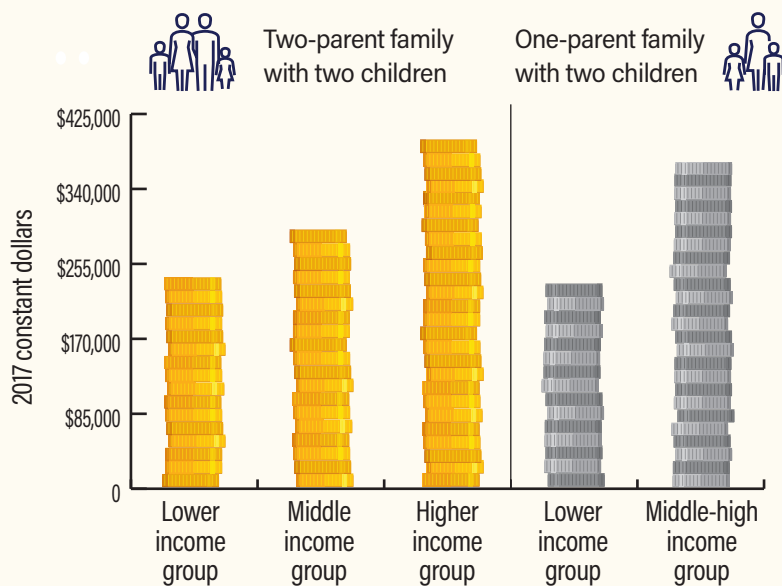
FAMILY SPENDING ON CHILDREN

in Canada



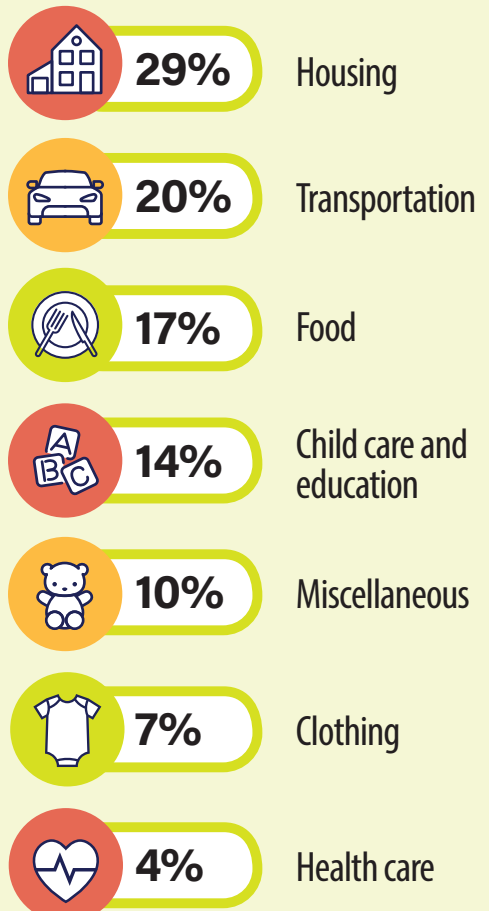
In Canada, middle-income families¹ with two parents and two children spent an average of **\$293,000** on a child **from birth to 17 years of age**, based on data from 2014 to 2017.²

Total expenditures per child, from birth to 17 years of age



When children aged **18 to 22** still living in the household were added, total expenditures per child were **\$68,000 to \$117,000 more than the total expenditures on a child from birth through age 17**, depending on family size and income group.

Percentage of expenditures per child, middle-income families with two parents and two children, by expenditure category³



Depending on family size and income group, expenditures per child were...

20% to 38%

higher in a two-parent family with **one child**

8% to 15%

lower in a two-parent family with **three children**

...than in a two-parent family with two children.



1. The household income groups for two-parent families are as follows: lower income group (less than \$83,013); middle income group (between \$83,013 and \$135,790); higher income group (over \$135,790), while the groups for one-parent families are as follows: lower income group (less than \$83,013) and middle-high income group (\$83,013 and over).

2. Data are based on a modelling exercise using pooled data from the Survey of Household Spending for the years 2014 to 2017.

3. The percentages for the expenditure categories are based on total expenditures from birth to 22 years of age, and do not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Source: Duncan, K.A., K. Frank and A. Guèvremont, 2023, "Estimating expenditures on children by families in Canada, 2014 to 2017," *Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series, no. 473*, Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 11F0019M.