Population Projections

Population Projections for Children and Youth in Ottawa from 2010 to 2020.

C.S. Millar and A. Lafrenière
Program Effectiveness Data Analysis Coordinators,
Parent Resource Centre
Ottawa , ON
613-565-2467
www.parentresource.ca

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Population Size and Growth Rate Estimates

This report describes the projections of population growth over the next 10 years for selected age groups of children and youth in Ottawa. This information is very useful in understanding how the population of children and youth will change over the next decade in Ottawa.

A total of 190 280 children and youth (0-18 year olds) lived in Ottawa in 2010, 26% of which were 0 to 5 years old. This represents the 4th largest population of children and youth (0 to 18 years old) and children between 0 and 5 years of age in Ontario (**Table 1; Figures 1 and 2**).

Table 1. Population size and growth rate estimates and projections for 2010 and 2020 in Ottawa (MCYS, 2011).

Years of Age	Population 2010	Projection 2020	Annual Growth Rate
0 to 5	56,868	73,308	2.6%
6 to 12	67,580	76,326	1.2%
13 to 18	65,832	63,742	-0.3%
0 to 18	***190,280***	***213,376***	***1.2%***

By 2020, the population of 0 to 18 years of age in Ottawa is projected to increase to 213 376, 34% of which would be 0 to 5 year olds. Thus, Ottawa is projected to have the 4th largest population of children between the ages of 0 and 5 year and 4th largest population of children and youth (0 to 18 years old) in Ontario in 2020 (**Table 1; Figures 1 and 2**).

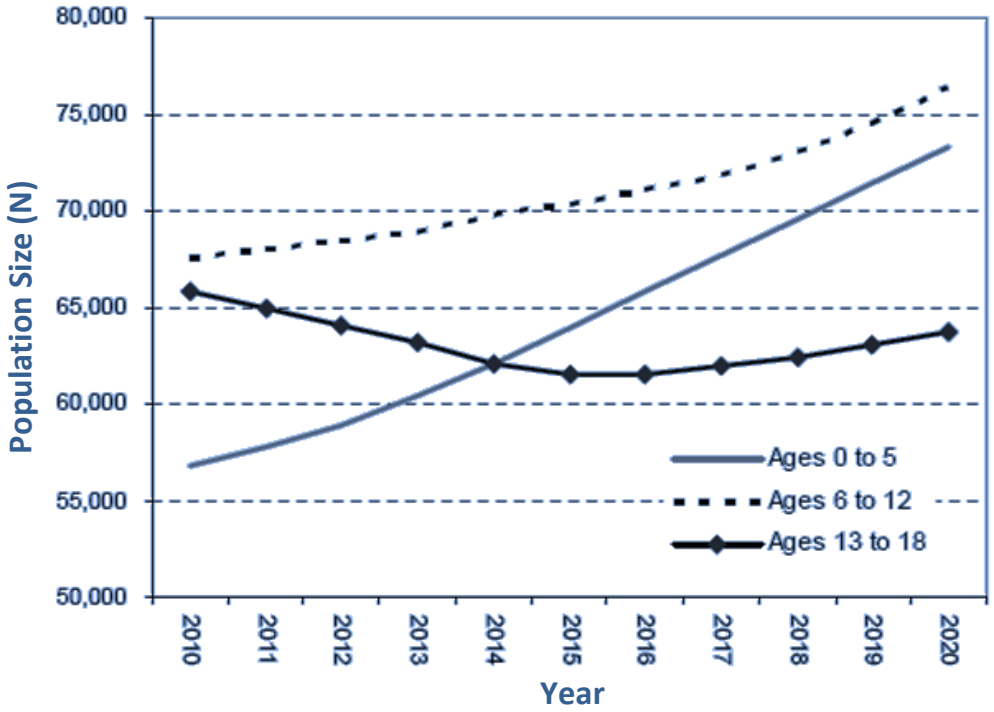

Figure 1. Population projections for children and youth between the ages of 0 and 5 years, 6 to 12 years, and 13 to 18 years from 2010 to 2020 in Ottawa (MCYS, 2011).

Finally, over the next decade, the projected annual growth rate for children and youth (0 to 18 years of age) in Ottawa is 1.2 %. This represents the 4th highest growth rate overall for children and youth in Ontario. The projected annual growth rate is highest in Ottawa for children between the ages of 0 and 5 years (2.6%) and lowest for children between the ages of 13 and 18 years (-0.3%)(**Table 1; Figures 1 and 2**). Children between the ages of 0 and 5 years in Ottawa are projected to have the fastest growth rate in Ontario over the next decade.

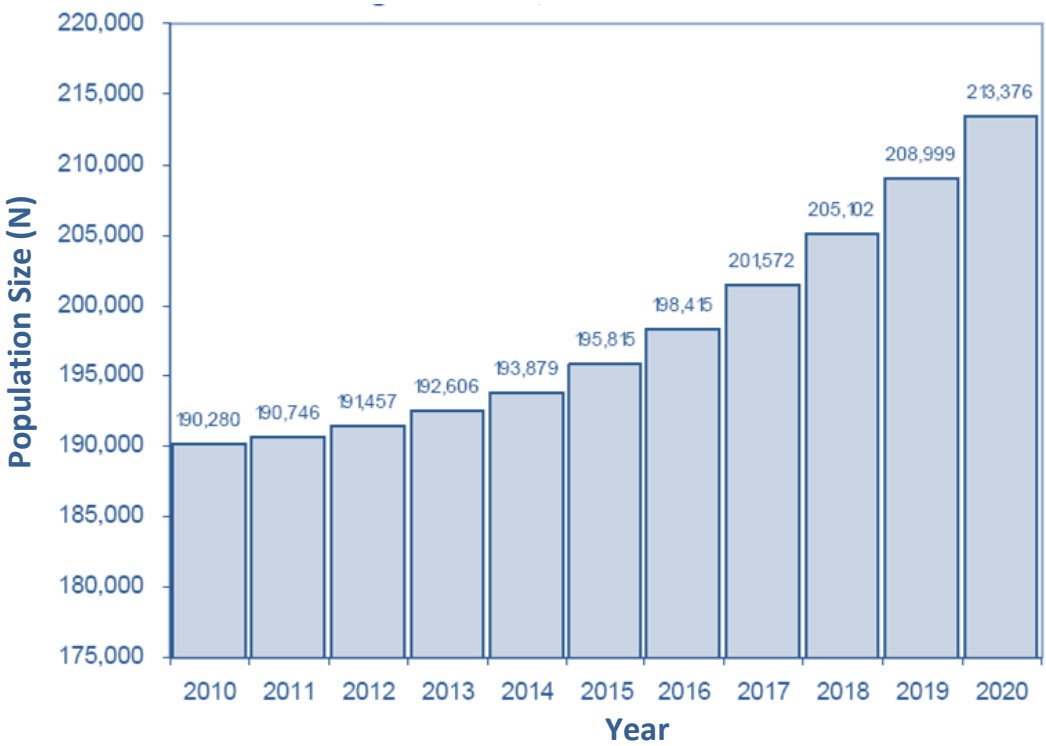

Figure 2. Population projections for children and youth between the ages of 0 and 18 years from 2010 to 2020 in Ottawa (MCYS, 2011).

Interestingly, in the Eastern Region, the population of children and youth aged 0 to 18 years is expected to grow above the regional annual rate of 0.8% in only one Census Division: Ottawa (1.2%). This Census Division will, in fact, experience greater growth or lower decline in population sizes in the Eastern region for all age groups presented. All Census Divisions in the Eastern Region will experience annual declines among the 13-18 year olds.

Eastern Ontario Census Divisions

Ottawa
Prescott-Russell
Renfrew
Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry

Implications

- The population of 0 to 5 year olds in Ottawa is expected to experience the greatest increase in size over the next decade compared to all other populations of children and youth (0 to 18 years of age) in Ontario. Thus, Ottawa agencies working with 0 to 5 year olds and their families may experience substantial increases in demand for programs and resources. Due to the fast rate of growth for this population of children, agencies may have difficulties keeping up with the increasing demands of their communities.
- Demands may also increase for services tailored to 6 to 12 year olds and their families. Although the rate of growth for this population is considerably less than that of the 0 to 5 year olds, it is important that agencies are able to meet the demands of this growing population in Ottawa.
- Finally, the 4th largest population of children 0 to 18 and 0 to 5 years of age in Ontario is contained in the Ottawa region. Thus, Ottawa has an important role to play in the continued healthy development of children and youth.

References

MCYS. 2011. Population Projections for Children and Youth: Service Delivery Regions, Child and Parent Resource Institute and Thistletown Regional Centre and Census Divisions 2010 to 2020. *Labour Market Unit, Research and Outcome Measurement Branch, Strategic Policy and Planning Division, Ministry of Children and Youth Services*, Ottawa, ON.