



2019 Report Card on Canadian Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Programs

CANADA'S GRADE: **INSUFFICIENT**

This report card was developed by the Canadian Infant Hearing Task Force (CIHTF).

Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) programs aim to proactively address infant hearing health and include the following components: **1) universal hearing screening of all newborns; 2) identification of babies with permanent hearing loss; 3) intervention services which include support for technology and communication development; 4) family support; and 5) monitoring and evaluation of the program.**

Grades were assigned based on all five of the components being available province or territory-wide.

PROVINCE/TERRITORY (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)	GRADE	DESCRIPTORS
Alberta	SUFFICIENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 89%+ babies screened* All EHDI components province-wide Clinical protocols are implemented and monitored Database tracks infants and outcomes <p>*program recently implemented</p>
British Columbia	SUFFICIENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 97%+ babies screened All EHDI components province-wide Clinical protocols are implemented and monitored Database tracks infants and outcomes
Manitoba	INSUFFICIENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 92%+ babies screened Some EHDI components but not province-wide Clinical protocols exist for some components but implementation is not monitored Database tracks screening component only
New Brunswick	INSUFFICIENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 98%+ babies screened Some EHDI components but not province-wide Family support and monitoring are not formalized or centrally coordinated Clinical protocols from 2002 are being used and not monitored Regional databases mostly track screening numbers but not outcomes
Newfoundland and Labrador	INSUFFICIENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Screening coverage unknown Some EHDI components but not province-wide Clinical protocols exist but implementation is not monitored No database to track infants or outcomes
Northwest Territories	SUFFICIENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 99%+ babies screened All EHDI components territory-wide Clinical protocols are implemented and monitored Database tracks infants and outcomes

PROVINCE/TERRITORY (RANKED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)	GRADE	DESCRIPTORS
Nova Scotia	SUFFICIENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 96%+ babies screened • All EHDI components province-wide • Clinical protocols are implemented and monitored • Database tracks infants and outcomes
Nunavut	INSUFFICIENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screening coverage unknown • Some EHDI components but not territory-wide • Clinical protocols are not implemented • No database to track infants or outcomes
Ontario	SUFFICIENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 94%+ babies screened • All EHDI components province-wide • Clinical protocols are implemented and monitored • Database tracks infants and outcomes
Prince Edward Island	INSUFFICIENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 97%+ babies screened • All EHDI components province-wide • Clinical protocols exist but implementation is not monitored • No database to track infants or outcomes
Quebec	INSUFFICIENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30%+ babies screened (in the process of universal newborn hearing screening program planning) • Some EHDI components but not province-wide • Clinical protocols exist for some components but implementation is monitored for screening only • Regional databases exist to track infants up to 6 months of age
Saskatchewan	INSUFFICIENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screening coverage unknown (universal newborn hearing screening is targeted for spring 2019) • Some EHDI components but not province-wide • Clinical protocols are not implemented • No database to track infants or outcomes
Yukon	SUFFICIENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 99%+ babies screened • All EHDI components available with support from southern provinces (e.g., BC) • Clinical protocols are implemented and monitored • Database tracks infants and outcomes

CIHTF is a national group of leaders in hearing health who promote and advocate for comprehensive EHDI programs across Canada. The Task Force is a collaboration of Speech-Language & Audiology Canada (SAC) and the Canadian Academy of Audiology (CAA): www.infanthearingcanada.ca

All children in Canada deserve access to proper hearing screening, timely diagnosis and appropriate intervention to reach their full potential. Continued action from Canada's provincial and territorial governments, in addition to policy leadership at the federal level, is needed to achieve sufficient and sustainable EHDI programs across the country.

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This report card has been endorsed by:

