## YARDSTICK Playgrounds

Yardstick is a suite of benchmarking tools that delivers need to know information for your business to inform your decision making and improve your service delivery. The information in this report comes from the 2019 Yardstick Parks Benchmarking project. The 2020 project is currently underway and results should be ready for reporting by mid 2020.

### **Playground strategy**

In 2019, 50% of Yardstick members in Canada reported that they have no long term strategy for playground provision. Less than 14% have a playground strategy that is operational and less than 5 years old, down from 20% in 2017. The members with operative strategies have declined from 35% in 2017 to around 23% in 2019, with the percentage under development up from 5% in 2017 to 27% in 2019. This shows an overall decline in operative strategies, but an increase in development.



#### **Provision and cost**



The median level of provision of playgrounds in Canada has varied over the past few years with no obvious trend in provision. Median provision is generally above 4.

During the same period, median maintenance cost has also varied but is usually between \$2k to \$3K per playground.

Median number of playgrounds per 1,000 children

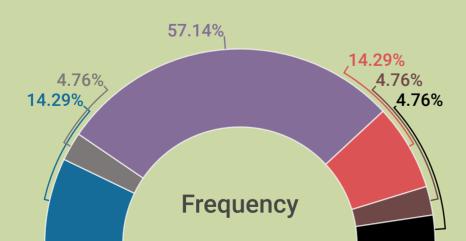
Median maintenance cost per playground

# Per hectare parkland varies from 0.1 to 0.32 playgrounds with

Level of provision per hectare of maintained a median level of provision of 0.17 playgrounds per hectare of actively maintained parkland.

Town of Tillsonburg (ON) <b>0.32</b>	City of Thunder Bay (ON) <b>0.24</b>	City of Burlington (ON) <b>0.2</b>	Town of Cochrane (AB) <b>0.17</b>			City of Surrey (BC) <b>0.14</b>
City of Calgary (AB) 0.29	City of St Albert (AB) 0.23					
	0.20	0.2	City of Lethbridge (A 0.13	AB)	City of Kamloops (BC) 0.11	of Richmond (BC) 0.11
	Town of Aurora (ON) <b>0.22</b>			ity of K	ity of K	City of Ri
City of Port Coquitlam (BC) <b>0.29</b>		0.2	Municipality of Whistler (BC) 0.12		с	O
	City of Waterloo (ON) <b>0.21</b>	City of Kelowna (BC) <b>0.17</b>				
			City of Edmont (AB) <b>0.11</b>	on		

#### **Playground inspections**



Monthly inspections are the most common frequency inspections (57%), with the next most common frequency (14%) being two-monthly or weekly.



How well do you know your business, and how well are you providing for your communities? Is it enough? Can you demonstrate improvements? Do you know what your current level of service is and what it is costing you? How will future plans impact on expenditure? Let us help you measure, compare and improve your performance.

www.yardstickglobal.org

