








HANDOUT 15.1: ONTARIO GOVERNMENT SPENDING SECTORS

The Ontario provincial government has seven major spending areas of which the 30 ministries fall within.

SECTOR	DESCRIPTION
 <p>Children and Social Services</p>	<p>The children and social services sector includes the Ministry of Children and Youth Services and the Ministry of Community and Social Services. This sector seeks to provide programs and services to support children and youth and those in need of support (such as those with differing abilities) develop and achieve their potential.</p>
 <p>Education</p>	<p>The education sector includes the Ministry of Education. The education sector manages the province's publicly funded education and child care systems to help students in achieving personal success, and to ensure that the provincial curriculum outcomes are achieved.</p>
 <p>Health</p>	<p>The health sector includes the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. The health sector manages the province's hospital and nursing homes, and is responsible for administering the health care system and providing services like health insurance, drug benefits, care for the mental health issues, long-term care, home care, public health and disease prevention.</p>
 <p>Justice</p>	<p>The justice sector includes the Attorney General and the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services. The justice sector seeks to create a justice system that is modern, focused on prevention, community-based and people-centred by focusing on initiatives that will increase community safety and well-being, enhance system effectiveness and efficiency, improve outcomes for those in contact with the justice system.</p>
 <p>Postsecondary and Training</p>	<p>The postsecondary and training sector includes the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development. This sector ensures that Ontario has the best higher education and training system to provide high-quality education and relevant skills possible to prepare people for good jobs that will improve the competitiveness of Ontario's economy.</p>
 <p>Other Programs</p>	<p>Spending on other programs includes all other provincial government ministries, including the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, the Ministry of Energy, the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, the Ministry of Francophone Affairs and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.</p>
 <p>Interest on the Debt</p>	<p>When the provincial government has a deficit (more expenditures than revenues), they must borrow money to cover the shortfall. The money borrowed becomes the provincial debt, and the total debt is the accumulation of annual deficits. The government pays interest charges on the money borrowed over the years and not yet repaid. This spending is separate from that for provincial government ministries.</p>