he **ParentNode.childElementCount** read-only property returns an `unsigned long` representing the number of child elements of the given element.

> This property was initially defined in the `ElementTraversal` pure interface. As this interface contained two distinct set of properties, one aimed at `Node` that have children, one at those that are children, they have been moved into two separate pure interfaces, `ParentNode` and `ChildNode`. In this case, `childElementCount` moved to `ParentNode`. This is a fairly technical change that shouldn't affect compatibility.

Syntax

```
var count = node.childElementCount;
```

count
    The return value, which is an `unsigned long` (simply an integer) type.

node
    An object representing a `Document`, `DocumentFragment`, or `Element`.

Example

```javascript
var foo = document.getElementById('foo');
if (foo.childElementCount > 0) {
  // Do something
}
```

Polyfill for IE8 & IE9 & Safari

This property is completely unsupported prior to IE9. In IE9 and Safari, it is unsupported in the `Document` and `DocumentFragment` objects.

```javascript
;(function(constructor) {
  if (constructor &&
      constructor.prototype &&
      constructor.prototype.childElementCount == null) {
    Object.defineProperty(constructor.prototype, 'childElementCount', {
      get: function() {
        var i = 0, count = 0, node, nodes = this.childNodes;
        while (node = nodes[i++]) {
          if (node.nodeType === 1) count++;
        }
        return count;
      }
    });
  }
})(window.Node || window.Element);
```

Specification

Specification	Status	Comment
DOM The definition of 'ParentNode.childElementCount' in that specification.	Living Standard	Split the `ElementTraversal` interface in `ChildNode` and `ParentNode`. This method is now defined on the latter. The `Document` and `DocumentFragment` implemented the new interfaces.
Element Traversal Specification The definition of 'ElementTraversal.childElementCount' in that specification.	Obsolete	Added its initial definition to the `ElementTraversal` pure interface and use it on `Element`.