



Baseline EDI results set for Alberta

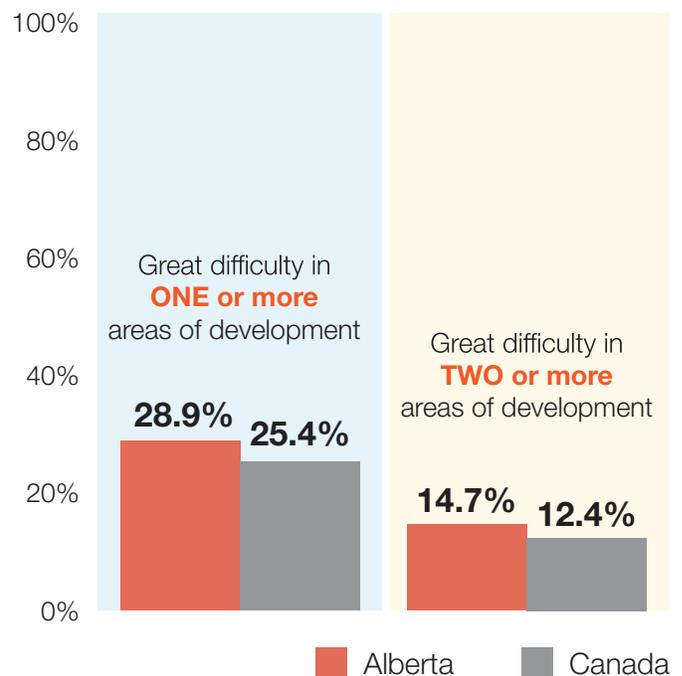
Early Development Instrument (EDI) results for Alberta have been updated to include a total of 70,206 kindergarten-aged children. Alberta now has a full picture of how its young children are doing provincially. EDI data was collected twice between 2009 and 2013 by school authorities. This data has been merged to provide more complete information on early development in Alberta than interim results released earlier. The merged data provides a baseline for Alberta that can be used as a basis for comparing future EDI results and tracking change over time.

Please note that baseline (2009 to 2013) data may look different than previous EDI results. Differences between the two do not reflect actual changes in early development. They are largely the result of adding information on large numbers of children into the database. (EDI information was collected on an additional 20,000 children in 2013, for example.)

Summary of baseline results

- Approximately 46 per cent of kindergarten-aged children in Alberta are developing appropriately in all five areas of development.
- A higher percentage of young children in Alberta are experiencing developmental difficulties as compared to the Canadian norm. Nearly 29 per cent are experiencing great difficulty in one or more areas of development compared to the Canadian norm of 25.4 per cent, and 14.7 per cent are experiencing great difficulty in two or more areas compared to the Canadian norm of 12.4 per cent.
- About three quarters of young children are developing appropriately in each of the following four areas when they are broken down separately: physical health and well-being, social competence, emotional maturity and language and thinking skills.
- Nearly a third (31.4 per cent) are experiencing difficulty or great difficulty in communications skills and general knowledge, the area that appears to be the biggest challenge across Alberta.

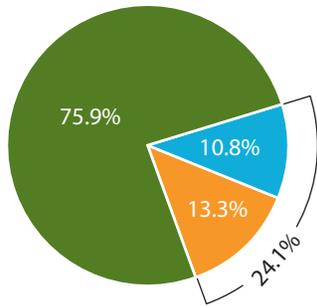
Comparison of Alberta and Canada: EDI results



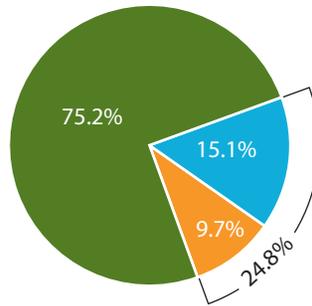
Alberta EDI data based on 2009-2013 baseline results

Alberta EDI 2009 – 2013 baseline results: five areas of development

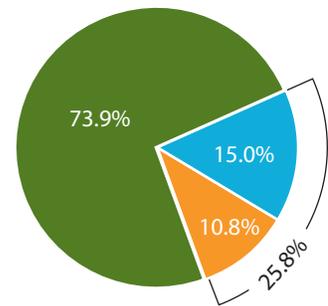
Physical Health and Well-being



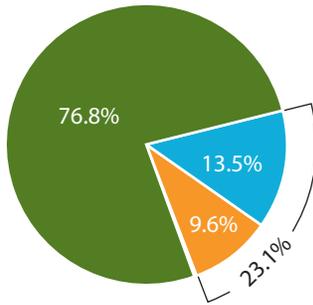
Social Competence



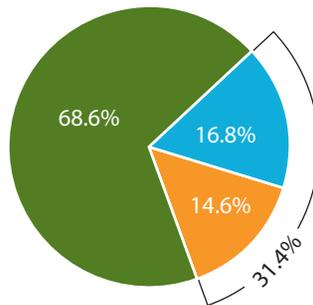
Emotional Maturity



Language and Thinking Skills



Communication Skills and General Knowledge



June 2014 (updated)

**Please note that numbers may not add up to exactly 100% due to missing data or rounding.*

Community results

Baseline EDI results for communities were released in the spring of 2014. These can be accessed from the ECMaP website at www.ecmap.ca.

The EDI

The Early Development Instrument is a tool that measures the development of kindergarten-aged children in five areas of development (physical health and well-being, social competence, emotional maturity, language and thinking skills, and communication skills and general knowledge). It is a population-based measure, not an individual diagnostic tool. The EDI was developed by the Offord Centre for Child Studies at McMaster University in Ontario and is used by most provinces, including Alberta, and internationally.

For more information, please go to www.ecmap.ca.