

EDI Map Interpretation



MAPPING FAST FACTS

EDI Neighbourhoods

Total number **459**

Smallest area Second Street, Burnaby (1.1 km²)

Largest area Stikine (188,034 km²)

Geographic School Districts

Total number **59**

Smallest population Stikine (1,809)

Largest population Vancouver (659,214)

a place of mind



HELP produces a range of maps and other graphics that illustrate the results of the Early Development Instrument (EDI), socio-economic information and other ecological data. These maps can be used in a variety of ways, from community mobilization to policy making, and are powerful tools for use in planning and community mobilization. Seeing the results for children in your neighbourhood inspires a direct commitment to improving those results.

WHAT DO EDI MAPS REVEAL?

Maps and summary reports reveal important differences in child development. Specifically, these maps can:

- Show the proportion (percentage) of children who are vulnerable in an area for each scale of the EDI;
- Identify neighbourhood differences in the number of children who are healthy and ready for school;
- Reveal where there are gaps in children's development and where improvement is needed;
- Reveal how socio-economic factors may influence children's early development;
- Heighten awareness of the importance of early child development; and,
- Prompt new community policies and programs.

READING EDI MAPS

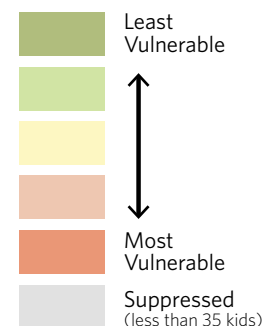
EDI results are mapped using a red to green colour scale based on the proportion of children vulnerable. These colour

classifications are based on the first wave of province-wide data collection (2000 - 2004) by dividing the scores into quintiles (fifths). Areas with low vulnerability are green, average vulnerability are yellow, and high vulnerability areas are red (Figure 1).

Data is suppressed if there are fewer than 35 EDI results in a specific area. This is indicated on EDI maps by grey shading.

FIG 1: THE EDI COLOUR SCALE

The EDI scales are mapped on the red to green colour scale. Areas on the map are coloured according to the percentage of children vulnerable.





MAPPING GEOGRAPHIES

The geography of a child’s daily life in his or her early years tends to centre on the neighbourhood. For this reason, HELP uses “natural neighbourhood units” to report EDI results. These units have been defined by working closely with communities.

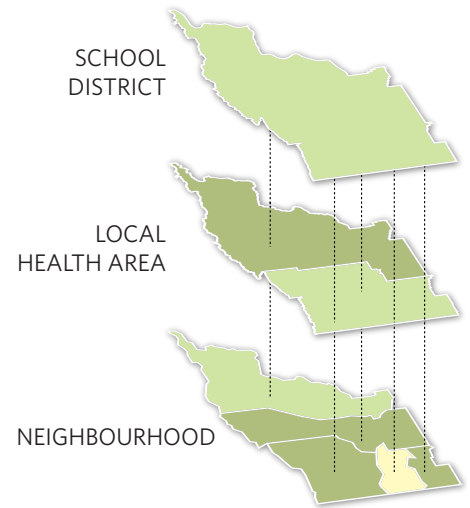
In addition to mapping EDI results by neighbourhood, the HELP research team also maps results by larger jurisdictions such as school districts and local health areas, to provide information that guides policy and programming decisions provincially and regionally. Routinely, maps are created for the 59 school districts and five regional health authorities in BC.

HOW ARE EDI RESULTS AGGREGATED?

The process of collecting individual data and reporting it at a community level requires a technique called geocoding. In accordance with the Province’s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) privacy rules, EDI data is anonymized in a secure

FIG 2: LEVELS OF GEOGRAPHY

EDI results are mapped at several levels of geography, revealing different patterns of vulnerability.



research environment, where it is linked via the child’s postal code to a corresponding neighbourhood or other level of geography. The process of geocoding and aggregating EDI results is described in Figure 3.

FIG 3: HOW EDI RESULTS AGGREGATED

EDI scores are associated with the postal code of children’s home address. Each postal code is geocoded (located) within a particular area, for example a neighbourhood. The scores of children within each area are then aggregated (grouped) so that results can be reported at the local or regional level.

