## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Editor Picks, Special Features</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Child Development</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. General, Cognition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii. Communication, Language,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy, Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii. Socioemotional Learning,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4. Environmental Health</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Climate Change, Infectious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii. Urban Design, Child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friendly Cities, Rural,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii. Exposures, Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**7. Equity, Diversity,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inclusion, Indigenization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Indigenous Health,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellbeing, Reconciliation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii. Diverse Populations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(BIPOC, 2SGBTQQIA+,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrant, Refugee, People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with Disabilities, Autism,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Income...)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii. Accessibility, Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matters, Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**2. Child Care, Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engagement, Partnerships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Connections, Hubs,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partnerships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii. Initiatives, Interventions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii. Programs, Services,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5. Mental Health</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Happiness, Wellbeing,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii. Sleep, Screentime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii. Healthy Habits, Substance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use, Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**8. Social Determinants,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Gradient, Public</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Education, Income (poverty)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii. Housing, Food Security,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii. Proportionate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universality, Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3. Early Environments</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Biological Sensitivity to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Context, Cortisol,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epigenetic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii. Adversity, Resilience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii. Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**6. Physical Health, Mobility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Active Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii. Out of School Activities,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii. Outdoor Play, Independent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobility, Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**9. Tools, Training, Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Compassionate Systems,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership, Curriculum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii. Measurement, Monitoring,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii. Ethics, Research Data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management, Other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## HUMAN DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH REVIEW: AIMS AND SCOPE

HELP’s Human Development Research Review (HELP Reads) aims to expand awareness of topics in human development, including social and emotional learning, social and environmental determinants of health, child care, and more. HELP Reads connects health academics, advocates, and professionals with online and publicly available research, news, and information. This review focuses on listing articles relevant to human development research activities at HELP. This review is not official or peer reviewed. It does not cover all research, news, and information, and HELP is not responsible for the accuracy of the content from media or databases. Not all links are open access; some are abstract links where paid journal subscription is required. HELP Reads is posted monthly [here](#).
EDITOR PICKS

Connections matter: Adolescent social connectedness profiles and mental well-being over time.
Eva Oberle, Associate Professor, Human Early Learning Partnership, and co-authors
“Experiencing connectedness with peers and adults is critical for the mental well-being in early adolescence.”

Connections matter: How are adolescents' social connections related to mental well-being over time? [Infographic]
Researchers examined adolescents' social connections and mental well-being over time, and highlight the key findings and implications for policy and practice.

2024/25 Catalyzing Research Cluster (GCRC) Grant recipient | Child and Youth Overdose Prevention Cluster.
Matthew Carwana, Dayna Fast, and members of Cluster Team
The Child and Youth Overdose Prevention Cluster led by Drs. Matthew Carwana and Danya Fast is studying the effects of illicit drug toxicity and overdose, which are the leading causes of death for children and youth aged 10-18 in British Columbia.

‘There’s not a lot of places for them to go’: rural and remote family perspectives on children’s independent mobility.
Caroline Sanders, Associate Professor, University of Northern BC, and co-authors
“To promote children’s independent mobility in rural and remote areas, efforts should focus on providing education on wildlife encounters, creating safe and interesting destinations for play, and consider children’s safety and connectivity in road design.”

Supporting Greater Vancouver secondary school students’ mental health through time outdoors: a qualitative investigation.
Hebah Hussaina, MSc student, University of British Columbia
“The purpose of this study is to understand the experiences of youth located in Vancouver, BC, who engage in or would like to engage in outdoor time at secondary...”

‘Society to Cell’ Clyde Hertzman Memorial Fellowship.
The Social Exposome Cluster is proud to announce the 4th competition for the ‘Society to Cell’ Clyde Hertzman Memorial Fellowship! Graduate students (masters and doctoral) and postdoctoral are invited to apply by June 7, 2024 by 4:00 pm PT.
EDITOR PICKS

World Happiness Report 2024.
Wellbeing Research Centre, University of Oxford

“The focus of the World Happiness Report 2024 is the happiness of people at different stages of life. Globally, young people aged 15-24 still report higher life satisfaction than older adults. But this gap is narrowing in Western Europe and recently reversed in North America due to falling life satisfaction among the young.”

Trends in international mathematics and science study (TIMSS).
Martin Guhn, Anne Gadermann, Amery Wu

“The Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) is a large-scale international comparative study that has collected data on students’ knowledge and skills in mathematics and science since 1995. Data are collected every 4 years from students in grade 4 and grade 8, that is, at about 9–10 and 13–14 years of age.”

Baseline recommendations database.
British Columbia Office of the Human Rights Commissioner

“The Baseline Project is a multi-year initiative by BC’s Office of the Human Rights Commissioner (BCOHRC) that aims to evaluate the current state of human rights in the province of British Columbia.”

British Columbia Office of the Human Rights Commissioner

“The Community Briefs below provide a snapshot of the human rights issues being faced by each of four B.C. communities: Chetwynd, Chilliwack, Cranbrook and Terrace.”

The RESPCCT Study: Community-led Development of a Person-Centered Instrument to Measure Health Equity in Perinatal Services.
Wendy Hall, Professor Emerita, UBC School of Nursing, and co-authors

“The final survey instrument includes items that assess respectful care across 17 domains, including validated measures of autonomy, respect, mistreatment, trauma, and discrimination. It also captures information about respondents’ identities, backgrounds, circumstances, access to care, provider type, and outcomes.”
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH REVIEW

HELP FACULTY and AFFILIATE (selected publications)


HELP RESOURCES


MEDIA GENERAL


1. CHILD DEVELOPMENT

1.i. General, Cognition


1.ii. Communication, Language, Literacy


1.iii. Socioemotional Learning, Other


2. CHILD CARE, EDUCATION, PARTNERSHIPS

2.i. Connections, Hubs, Partnerships


2.ii. Initiatives, Interventions


2.iii. Programs, Services, Other


3. EARLY ENVIRONMENTS

3.i. Biological Sensitivity to Context, Cortisol, Epigenetic


3.ii. Adversity, Resilience

3.iii. Other


4. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

4.i. Climate Change


4.ii. Urban Design, Child Friendly Cities, Rural, Greenspace


4.iii. Exposures, Other


5. MENTAL HEALTH

5.i. Happiness, Wellbeing, Distress

SPECIAL: How are kids doing? – See Appendix 1


5.ii. Sleep, Screentime


5.iii. Healthy Habits, Substance Use, Other

6. PHYSICAL HEALTH, MOBILITY

6.i. Active Transportation


6.ii. Activities, Sports


6.iii. Outdoor Play, Independent Mobility, Other


7. SOCIAL DETERMINANTS, PUBLIC POLICY

7.i. Education, Income (poverty)


7.ii. Housing, Food Security, Family Policy


7.iii. Proportionate Universality, Other


8. INDIGENEOITY, EQUITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION

8.i. Indigenous


8.ii. Diverse Populations (BIPOC, LGBTQIA2S+, Immigrant, Refugee, People with Disabilities, Autism, Low Income…)


8.iii. Place Matters, Other

9. COMPASSIONATE SYSTEMS, TOOLS, OTHER

9.i. Leadership


9.ii. Measurement, Monitoring, Screening


9.iii. Ethics, Research Data Management


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APPENDIX 1 – see next page
In March 2024 the *World Happiness Report* was released. This report is produced by Gallup, the Oxford Wellbeing Research Centre and UN Sustainable Development Solutions, and measures happiness through life evaluations and emotions across 155 countries. World happiness data show Canada is in 15th place, down two spots from last year, while its younger people are far down the rankings in a newly added category. Canada is ranked 58th in the world when it comes to the happiness of people under the age of 30. Happiness among young Canadians has ‘fallen sharply’. Racialized individuals in Canada saw the lowest *life satisfaction* at 42 per cent, whereas the share of people highly satisfied with life climbed to 54 per cent.

HELP has unique data that indicate how well children in British Columbia (BC) are doing. Combining select measures from the *Middle Years Development Instrument* (MDI) helps in developing a comprehensive portrait of children’s overall *well-being* and the assets that contribute to their healthy development. HELP data provide insight on children and youth happiness. Early adolescents complete the MDI report on several variables including life satisfaction, depressive symptoms, and connectedness with peers and adults at home, school and in the community. Reports are available [here](#) for all participating BC districts.

Dr. Eva Oberle, an Associate Professor with the Human Early Learning Partnership in the School of Population and Public Health at the University of British Columbia, and colleagues recently reported on changes over time for life satisfaction, depression and connectedness measures in BC children in grade 7 before the COVID-19 pandemic in Winter 2020, and in grade 8 during the second wave of the pandemic in Winter 2021. Well-being was highest when students felt highly connected in all domains and lowest...
when they felt lower levels of connection. Increases in connectedness were associated with improvements in mental well-being and decreases with a decline in well-being over time. Data at HELP enables a sharper look at how kids are doing region by region, district by district, and these data can support evidence-based program and policy development. Data are available for longitudinal analyses, year-to-year comparison, and annual reporting. For more on HELP research, see summary reports and the MDI data dashboard.

References

Please cite as: