

Understanding the Early Years (UEY):

What is UEY?

A national initiative, funded by Human Resources and Social Development Canada, that enables communities to better understand the needs of their young children and families so they can determine the best programs and services to meet them.

Where is UEY?

- Over 30 communities across Canada
- Niagara Falls (2001-2007)
- Niagara Region (2005-2008)

Your local sponsor is the Early Childhood Community Development Centre (ECCDC) !!



UEY Timeline



- 2001 EDI UEY Niagara Falls
- National Longitudinal Study of Children & Youth (NLSCY) -Statistics Canada 2001/02 used by UEY Niagara Falls
- 2001 Census Data Statistics Canada used by UEY Niagara Falls and UEY Niagara Region
- 2002 EDI UEY Niagara Falls / Ontario Early Years Niagara Region
- 2003 EDI UEY Niagara Falls
- 2003 Community Resources Inventory Survey Ontario Early Years Niagara Region / UEY Niagara Falls
- 2005 EDI UEY Niagara Falls / Ontario Early Years Niagara Region
- 2006 EDI UEY Niagara Region
- 2006 Community Resources Inventory Survey UEY Niagara Region
- 2007 PIDACS UEY Niagara Region

UEY Tools:

Children's Development, Family & Community Experience

Community Assets

> Early Development
Instrument (EDI)
> Parent Interviews and Direct
Assessment of
Children (NLSCY,
PIDACS)

Community Resource Inventory Mapped by Spring 2007!

Community Factors

Socioeconomic Conditions and Social Risk Index

Mapped by Spring 2007!

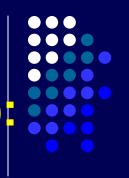
Early Development Instrument (EDI):



Measures readiness to learn at school which refers to the child's ability to meet the task demands of school, such as:

- being comfortable exploring and asking questions,
- listening to the teacher,
- playing and working with other children,
- remembering and following rules, and
- benefiting from the educational activities that are provided.

Early Development Instrument (EDI)



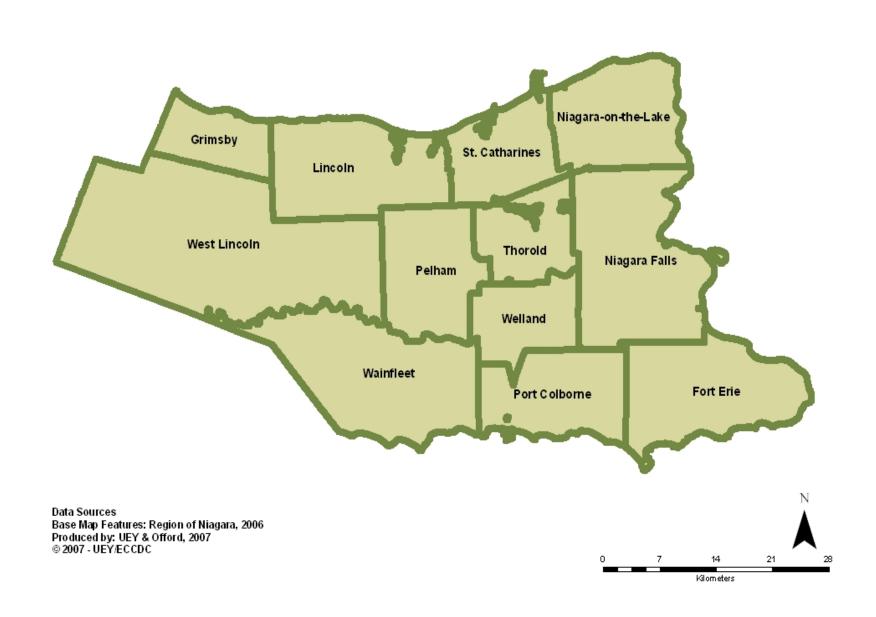
Teacher recorded measure on five domains of children's early development:

- 1. Physical Health & Well-being,
- Social Competence,
- 3. Emotional Maturity,
- 4. Language & Cognitive Development, and
- 5. Communication Skills & General Knowledge.

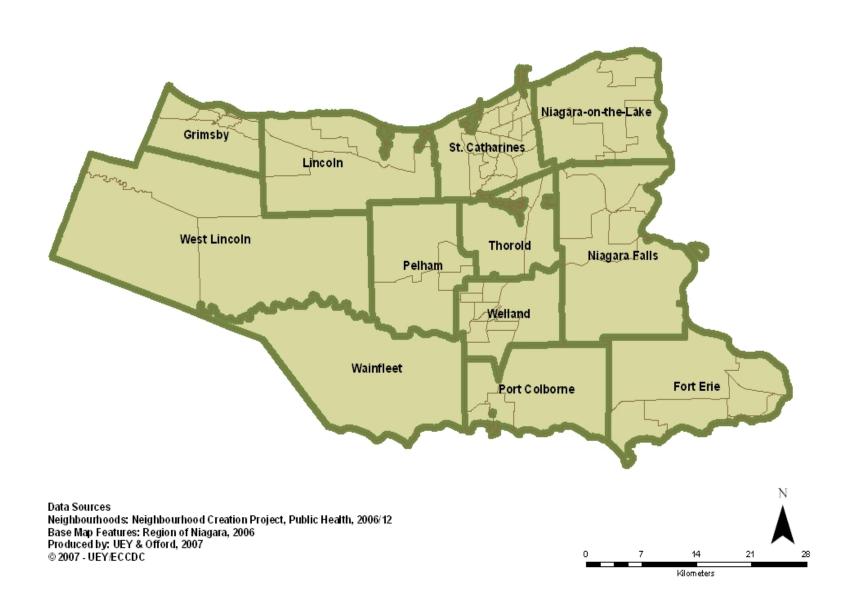
In early 2006, Senior
Kindergarten teachers from
across the Niagara Region and
both School Boards
implemented the EDI with their
students.

The following are some of the Niagara Region Neighbourhood 2006 EDI results:

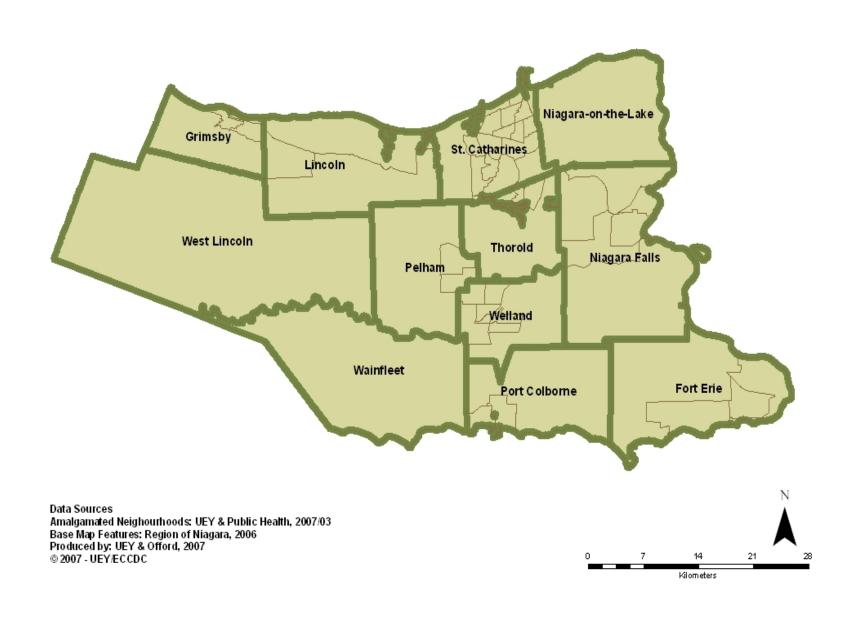
Municipalities of Niagara Region



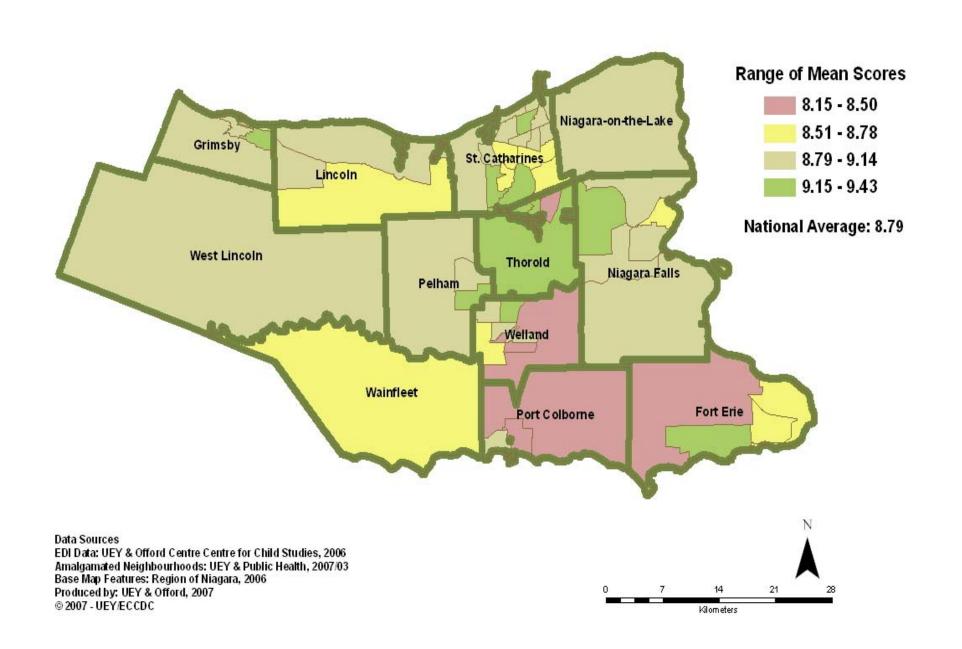
Neighbourhoods in Municipalities of Niagara Region



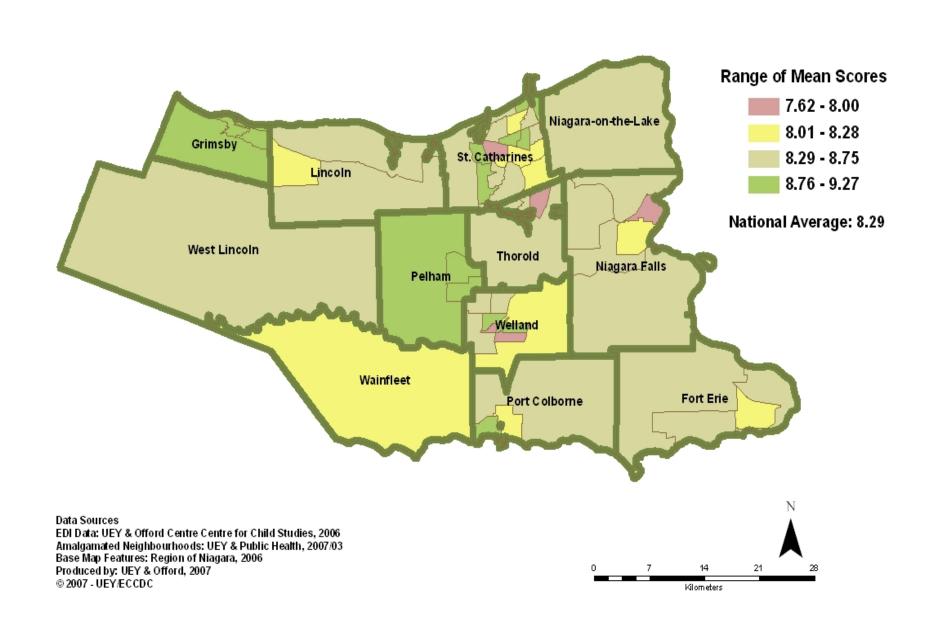
Amalgamated Neighbourhoods in Municipalities of Niagara Region



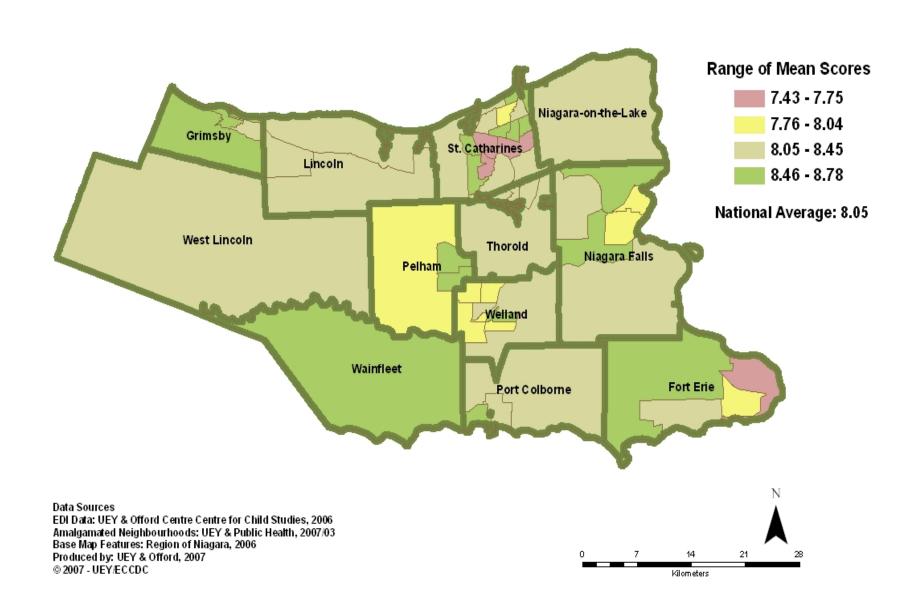
Physical Health and Well-being Means by Neighbourhoods in Niagara Region



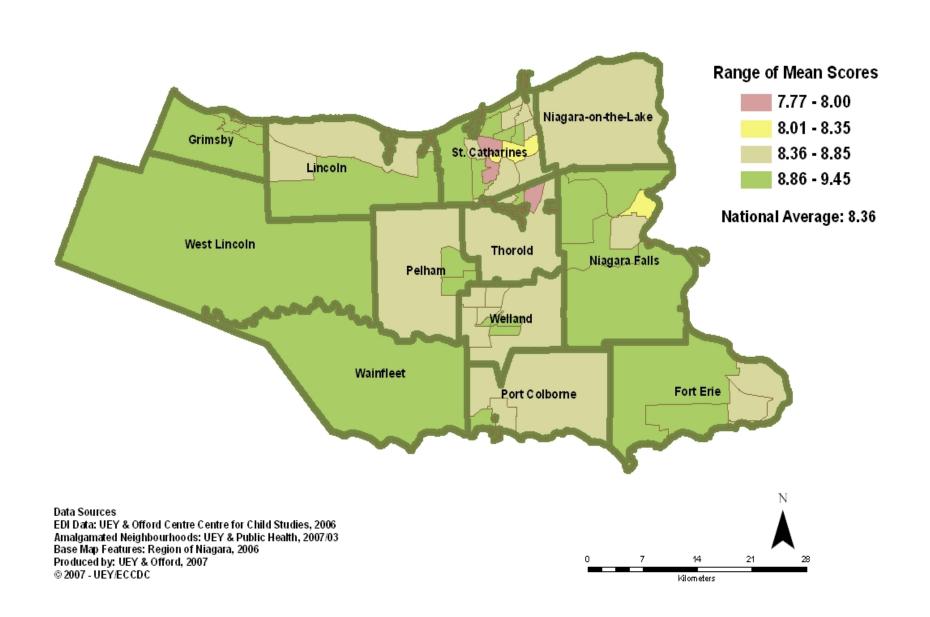
Social Competence Means by Neighbourhoods in Niagara Region



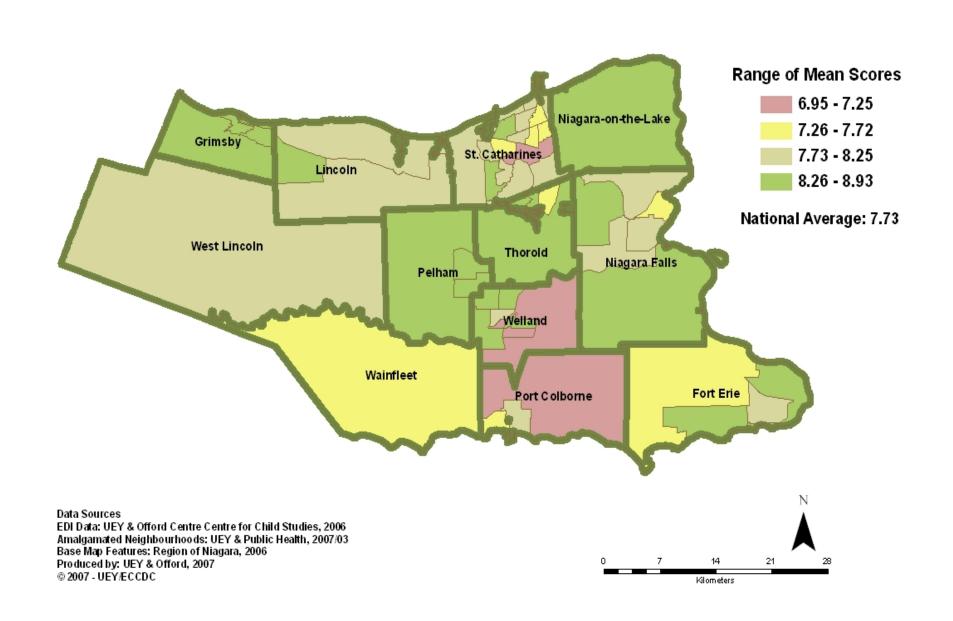
Emotional Maturity Means by Neighbourhoods in Niagara Region



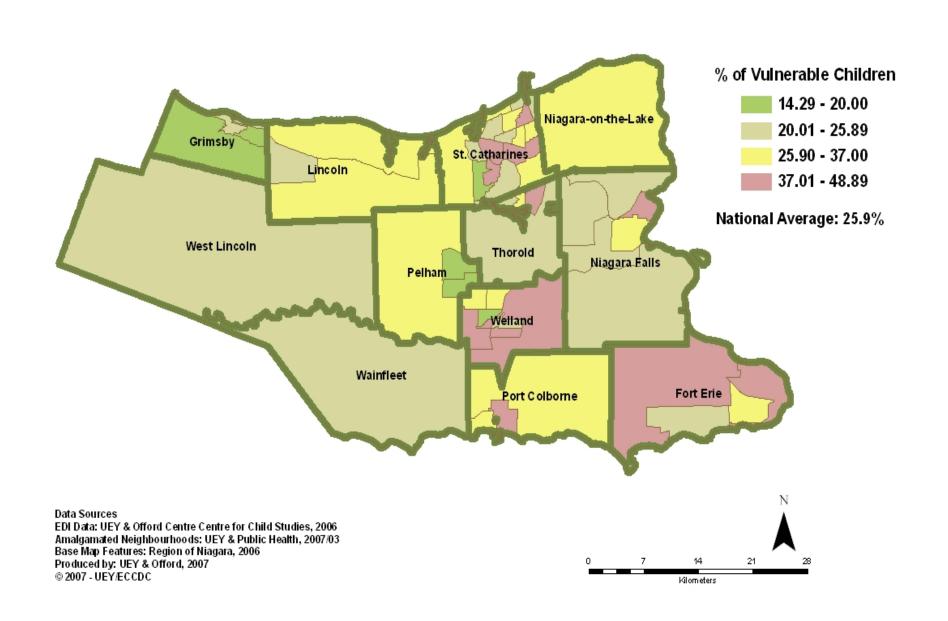
Language and Cognitive Development Means by Neighbourhoods in Niagara Region



Communication Skills & General Knowledge Means by Neighbourhoods in Niagara Region



% of Vulnerable Children by Neighbourhoods in Niagara Region



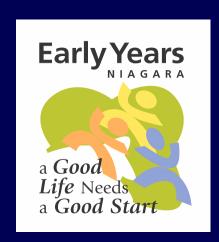
Local UEY Impacts:



- To-date, the data has been used to:
- 1. Identify program and service needs;
- 2. Plan and make decisions;
- 3. Allocate resources;
- 4. Write proposals; and
- **5.** Support professional development. Some examples...

Early Years Niagara / Early Years Niagara Research Group:





- Transition to School Working Group partnered with UEY Niagara Falls and other community organizations to develop the Off to School Calendar in both English and French (2005, 2006, 2007);
- 8500 of these were distributed to all parents registering children in SK;
- One month outlines EDI domains & associated tips for parents.

Early Childhood Community Development Centre





- Community knowledge building to build awareness of the importance of the first six years of life:
 - Professional Development & Training;
 - Expert Speakers;
 - Resource / Educational Materials in ECCDC;
 - Resource Library;
 - Conference Displays;
 - Capacity Building Development & Training; and
 - Conferences:
 - 2002 Connecting Research to Practice
 - 2004 Niagara Summit on Human Development.

Regional Municipality of Niagara:





- Children's Services Department used research to assist with site planning and selection.
- UEY contributed to Niagara Parenting Conference coordinated by Public Health Department and Brock.
- UEY presentations to Healthy Babies, Healthy Children for Public Health Department.
- Ongoing collaboration with Data Analysis Coordinator:
 - Neighbourhood Creation Project and
 - 2006 Community Resource Inventory.

Niagara Catholic District School Board (NCDSB):





Used UEY data, in conjunction with own research, for:

- Programming and resource allocation purposes,
- Planning professional development,
- Justifying programs, and
 - For example, the "Lion's Quest" Social Skills Program
- Target setting and evidence-based decisionmaking.
 - For example, "Boys and Literacy Improvement Plan 2004-2008"



District School Board of Niagara (DSBN):



Used UEY findings to:

- Increase educator awareness regarding the importance of the early years in setting trajectories for learning, health and behaviour,
- Provide direction for professional development activities, and
- To support decision-making concerning services and placement of child care programs within schools.

Ontario Early Years Centres Ontario Early Years Centres A Place for Parents And Their Children. A Place for Parents And Their Children.







- Plan sites mobile resources and satellite services,
- Develop, adjust and resource programs,
 - For example, snacks for programs in high need areas
- Support successful proposals, and

Centres de la Petite enfance

- For example, the "Count Me In" Program
- Provide evidence for a community need.
 - For example, the summer "School's Cool" program
 Plan professional development for staff.

Provincial & National Impacts:



Provincially:

- Ontario Early Years Initiative
- Ministry of Community, Family & Children's Services
- Ontario Association of Home Child Care Providers
- Association of Ontario Health Centres
- Halton-Hamilton 2007
 Early Years Conference
 Steering Committee

Nationally:

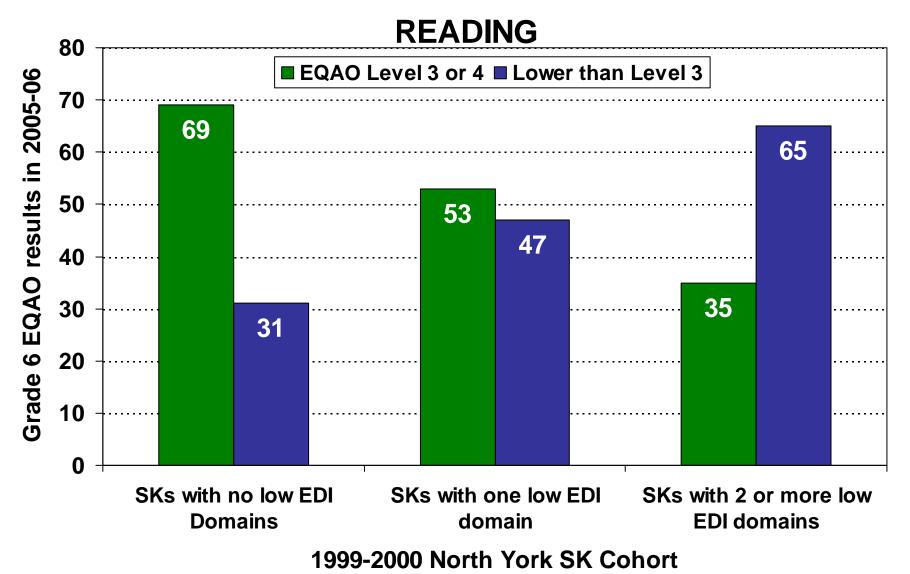
- Social Development Canada
- University of Guelph
- Canadian Child Care Federation

Use of EDI in other areas in Canada



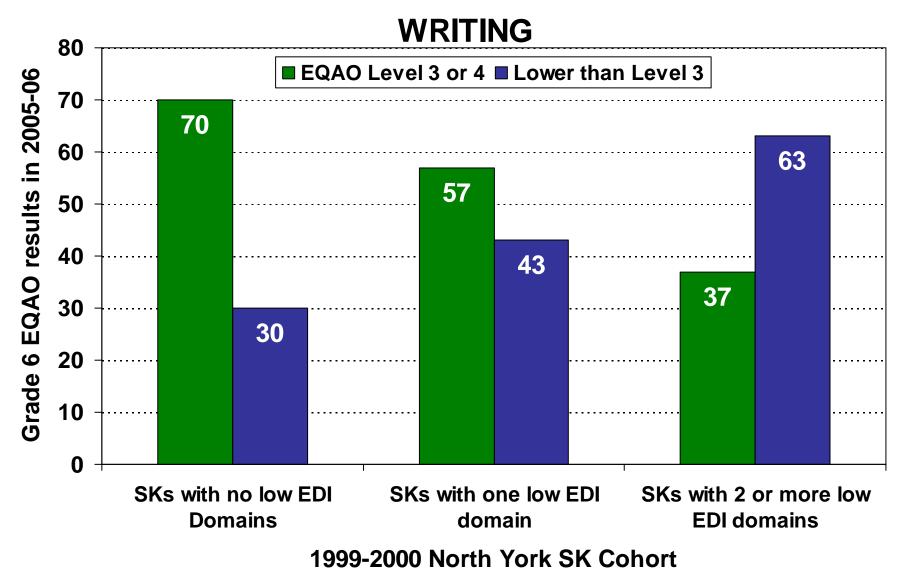
- Toronto
 - Relationship b/w EDI + Gr.6 EQAO scores
- BC
 - Neighbourhood level
 - Relationship b/w EDI + SES
- Halton
 - Neighbourhood level
 - Relationship b/w EDI + several other variables

1999-2000 SK EDI and Grade 6 EQAO Results 6 Years Later



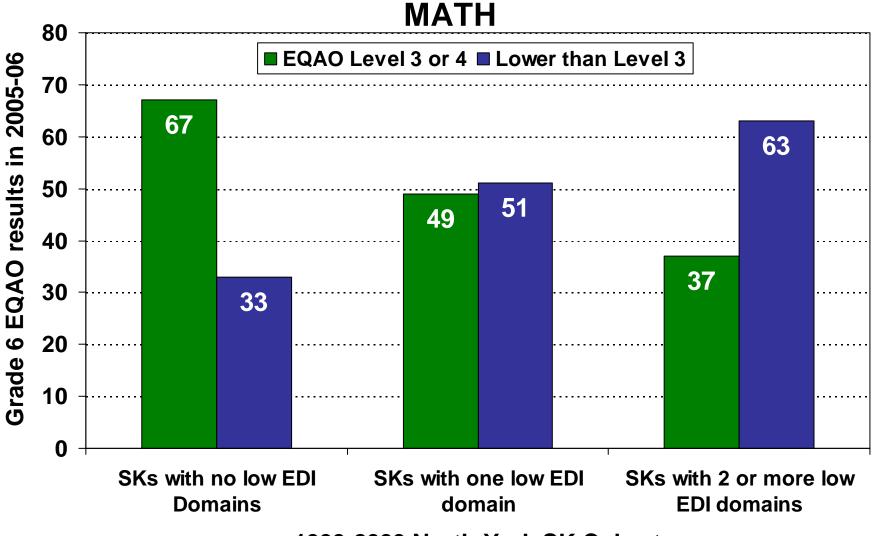
Source: Toronto District School Board, March 2007

1999-2000 SK EDI and Grade 6 EQAO Results 6 Years Later



Source: Toronto District School Board, March 2007

1999-2000 SK EDI and Grade 6 EQAO Results 6 Years Later



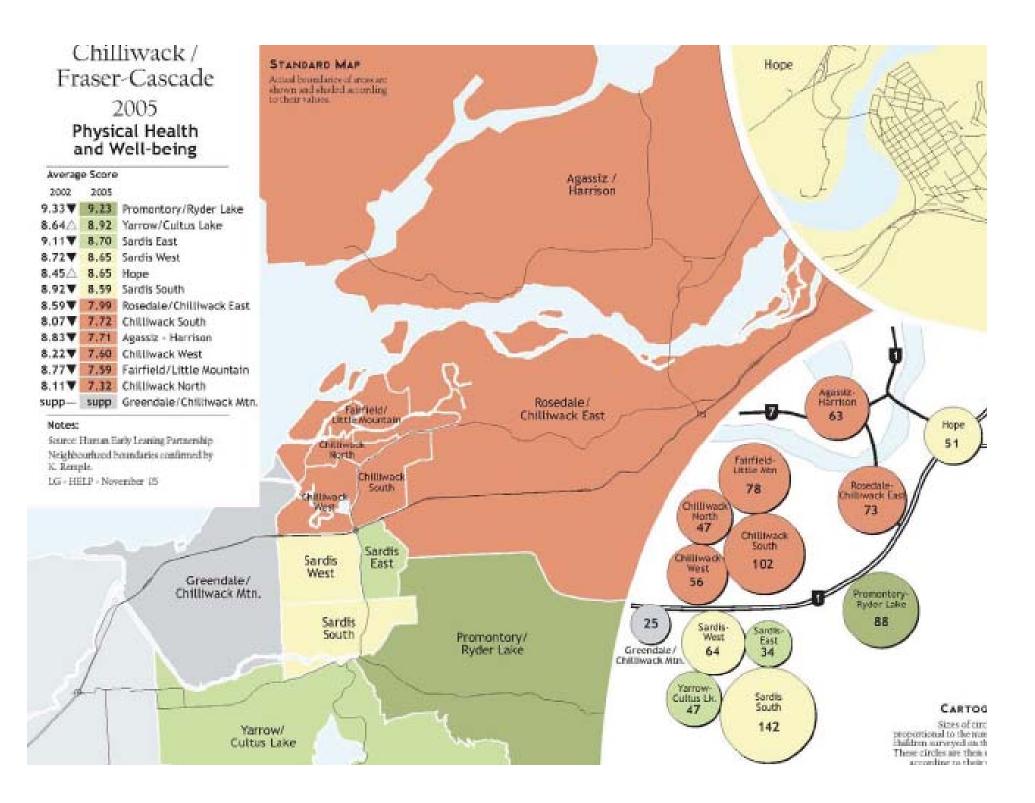
1999-2000 North York SK Cohort

British Columbia



- 25% of BC kindergarteners are challenged developmentally (HELP); similarly
- 25% of BC students do not complete high school (2001 Census)

Coincidence?

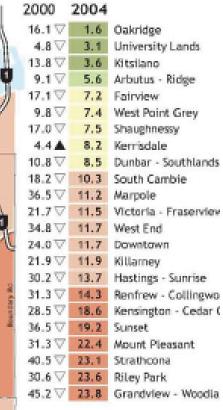


Vancouver

2004

Physical Health and Well-being

Percent of children deemed vulnerable (Provincial cutoffs)

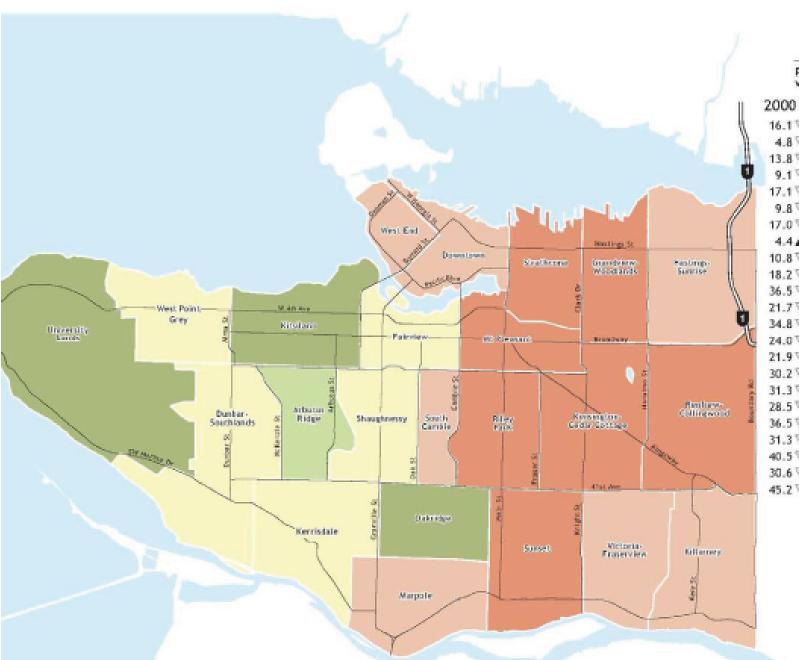


Notes to map:

Source EDI 2000 and 2004, Human I Learning Partnership.

Boundaries provided by the City of Vancouver.

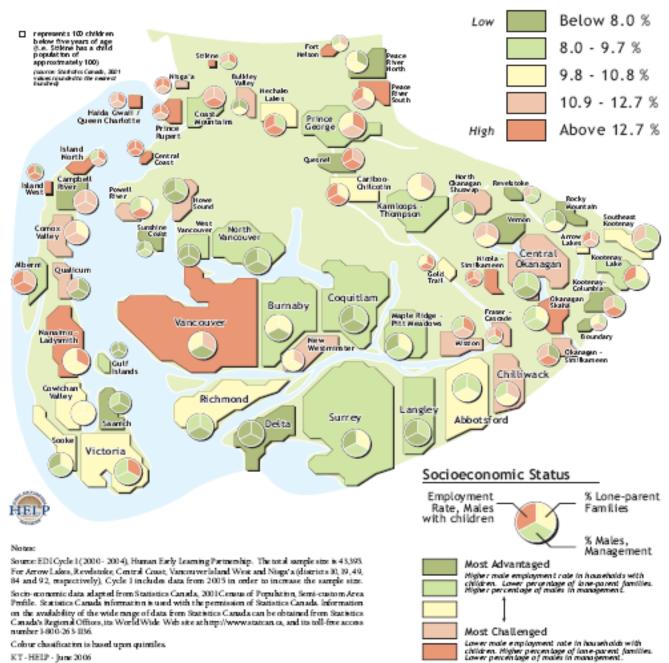
LG - HELP - August 2005



		Percent	Average	Emp Rate, Hales with Children	% Lave- parent Fundies	X Hales, Harage- ment
28	Outstat (Quesnel	Admerable 4.5	7.89	75.0	17.3	7.9
19	Revelstake	5.5	8.29	79.5	15.0	11.1
63	Saarich	5.9	8.15	88.6	10.1	16.9
20	Kootenay - Columbia	6.3	8.22	82.5	14.3	8.6
72	Campbell River	6.7	8.16	82.9	17.0	9.2
37	Deita	6.8	8.17	93.4	12.3	15.7
- 6	Rocky Mountain	6.9	8.26	86.9	13.2	10.9
60	Peace River North	7.1	8.23	85.9	13.1	10.0
22	Vernon	7.4	8.00	78.2	17.1	10.8
46	Sunshine Coast	7.4	8.20	94.4	14.0	12.0
51	Boundary	7.8	8.19	83.3	14.5	9.4
35	Langley	8.0	8.06	92.0	14.2	15.3
44	North Vancouver	8.0	8.04	91.1	14.6	18.6
36	Surrey	8.1	8.02	89.7	15.4	12.9
43	Coguitam	8.2	7.97	89.7	14.7	15.8
64	Gulf Islands	8.2	7.84	96.2	13.0	16.0
8	Kootenay Lake	8.3	7.79	75.7	15.9	11.3
41	Burnaby	8.7	7.95	85.5	15.9	13.5
45	West Vancouver	9.0	8.01	92.8	10.7	27.6
57	Prince George	9.1	7.97	83.5	18.1	9.4
82	Coast Mountains	9.2	7.90	78.6	17.1	8.7
42	Mapie Ridge	9.5	7.84	92.2	15.5	12.8
70	Alberri	9.5	8.00	71.7	17.5	8.5
73	Kamloops - Thompson	9.7	8.01	85.0	16.6	10.6
27	Carboo - Chilcotin	9.8	7.56	77.5	15.5	8.7
91	Nechako Lakes	9.9	7.91	75.6	15.0	6.7
34	Abbotsford	10.0	7.42	88.9	14.0	10.3
38	Richmond	10.3	7.86	86.1	13.9	16.5
62	Saake	10.3	7.87	92.9	15.6	11.5
74	Gold Trait	10.3	7.84	83.7	17.6	7.1
79	Cowichan Valley	10.3	8.10	85.8	15.8	11.0
5	Southeast Kootenay	10.5	7.86	81.8	13.7	11.3
61	Greater Victoria	10.6	7.83	86.8	18.1	12.6
10	Arrow Lakes	10.8	7.96	71.4	16.2	8.9
43	Howe Sound	10.9	8.07	89.4	13.7	13.6
53	Okanagan - Sim Ukameen	11.0	7.88	80.8	11.6	8.3
83	North Okanagan - Shuswap		7.97	86.9	13.5	10.9
47	Pawell River	11.7	7.94	87.3	15.3	8.3
23	Central Okanagan	11.8	7.45	88.1	14.2	13.9
71	Camax Valley	11.8	7.80	82.3	15.8	9.8
78	Fraser - Cascade	11.8	7.99	80.4	18.0	12.4
54	Buikley Valley	11.9	7.62	95.0	13.6	10.4
69	Qualicum	12.1	7.60	79.7	10.9	14.3
40 92	New Westminster Nisgala	12.2	7.80	85.2 50.0	16.9	10.8
75	Mission	12.6	7.69	87.1	18.1	9.6
33	Chilliwack	12.7	7.85	85.4	16.8	10.0
67	Okanagan - Skaha	13.0	7.74	88.2	15.4	12.8
59	Peace River South	14.1	7.77	75.7	15.8	8.9
52	Prince Rupert	14.3	7.55	71.8	21.9	9.4
87	Stkine	14.3	7.52	80.0	26.4	11.9
58	Nicola - Simtkameen	15.2	7.42	76.9	16.7	7.8
81	Fort Nelson	15.2	7.53	88.9	17.4	10.1
39	Vancouver	15.9	7.57	83.6	17.0	13.6
	Nanaimo - Ladysmith	16.2	7.48	83.2	17.8	11.0
85	Island North	17.8	7.49	86.1	17.6	9.3
49	Central Coast	18.9	7.44	60.0	21.7	8.0
50	Haida Gwaiii	19.0	7.02	82.1	22.1	9.9
84	Island West	19.6	6.98	20.0	12.3	7.5

Emotional Maturity

Percentage of children vulnerable



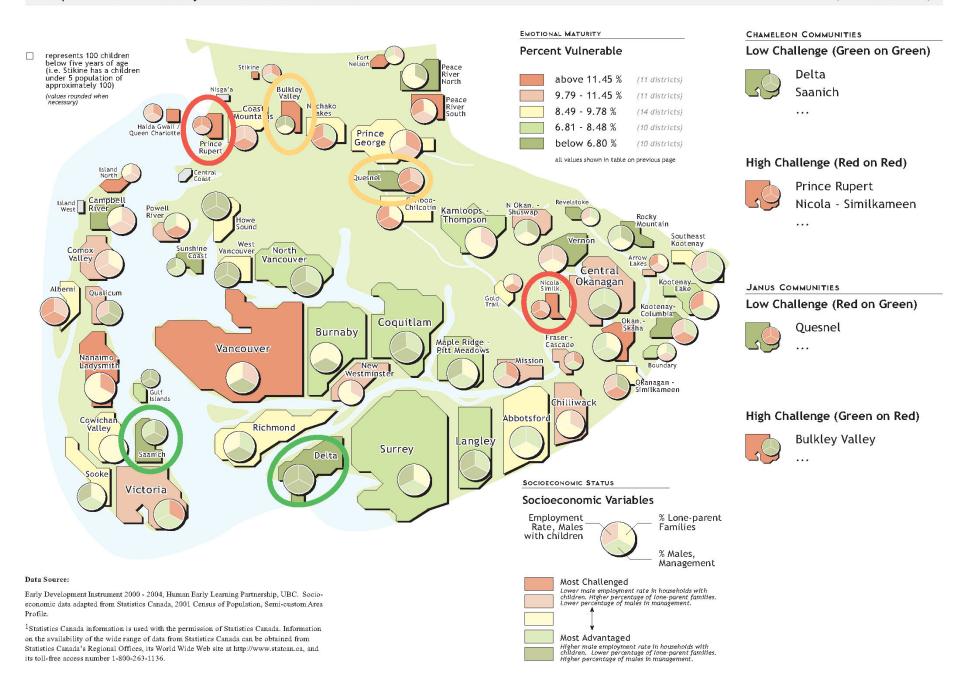


Figure 4.2.1: Physical Vulnerability Associated with SES



33.8 % of the variation in physical vulnerability across neighbourhoods correlates with neighbourhood SES.

Figure 4.5.1: Language Vulnerability Associated with SES



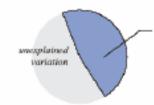
27.2 % of the variation in language and cognitive development vulnerability across neighbourhoods correlates with neighbourhood SES.

Figure 4.3.1: Social Vulnerability Associated with SES



20.9 % of the variation in social vulnerability across neighbourhoods correlates with neighbourhood SES.

Figure 4.6.1: Communication Vulnerability Associated with SES



 46.9 % of the variation in communication and general knowledgevulnerability across neighbourhoods correlates with neighbourhood SES.

Figure 4.4.1: Emotional Vulnerability Associated with SES



23.4 % of the variation in emotional vulnerability across neighbourhoods correlates with neighbourhood SES.

Figure 4.7.1: Vulnerability (One or More) Associated with SES



42.7 % of the variation in vulnerability on one or more scales across neighbourhoods correlates with neighbourhood SES.

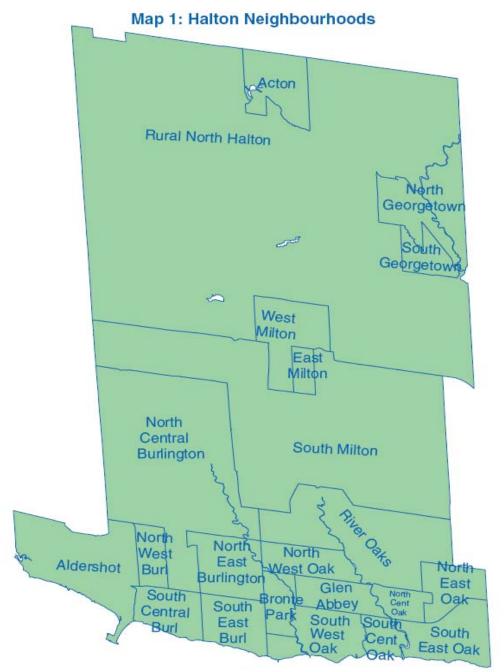
The Cost of Vulnerability: Percent 'Failing to meet expectations' & Percent 'Not Passing' on Grade 4 FSA's



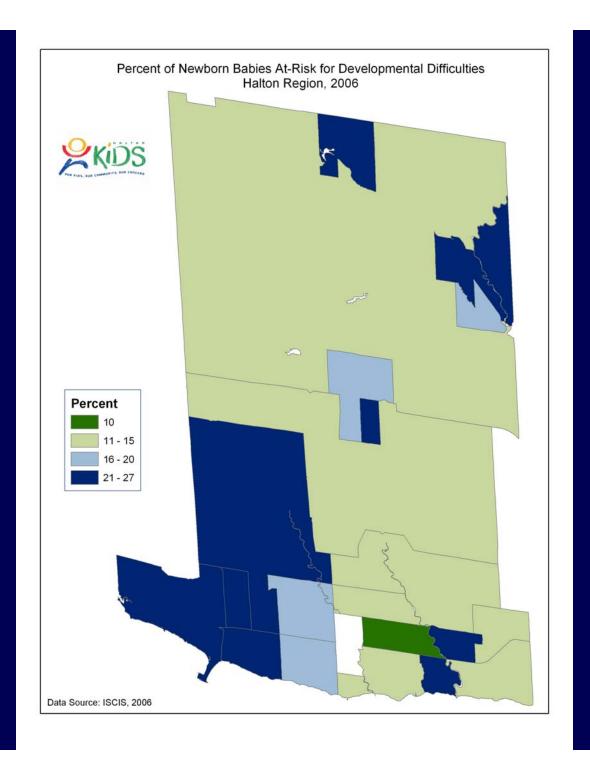
# of Vulnerabilities (kindergarten)	% Failing to meet expectations	% Not passing
Numeracy		
0	7.5	12.3
1	11.8	22.2
2-3	18.7	33.8
4-5	27.5	55.6
Reading		
0	13.6	17.8
1	26.7	33.9
2-3	29.5	43.1
4-5	48.4	68.3

Halton

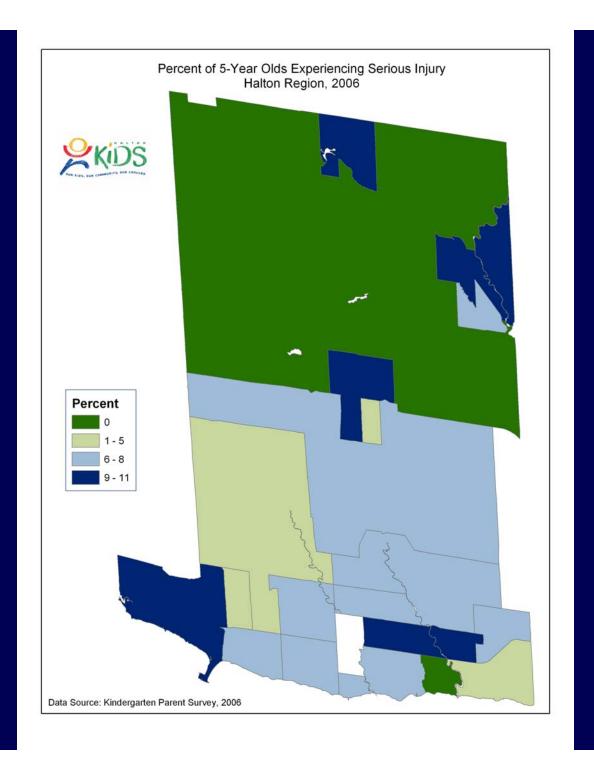
- Milton
- Burlington
- Oakville
- Acton
- Georgetown



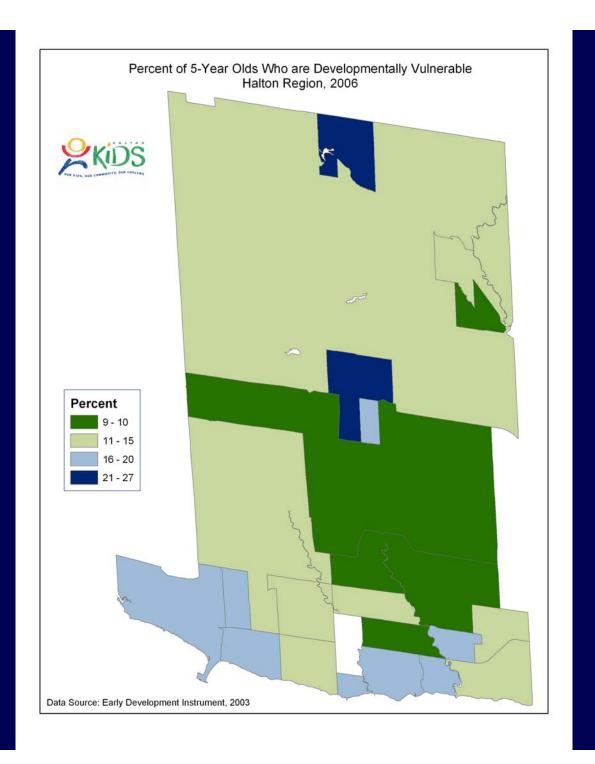




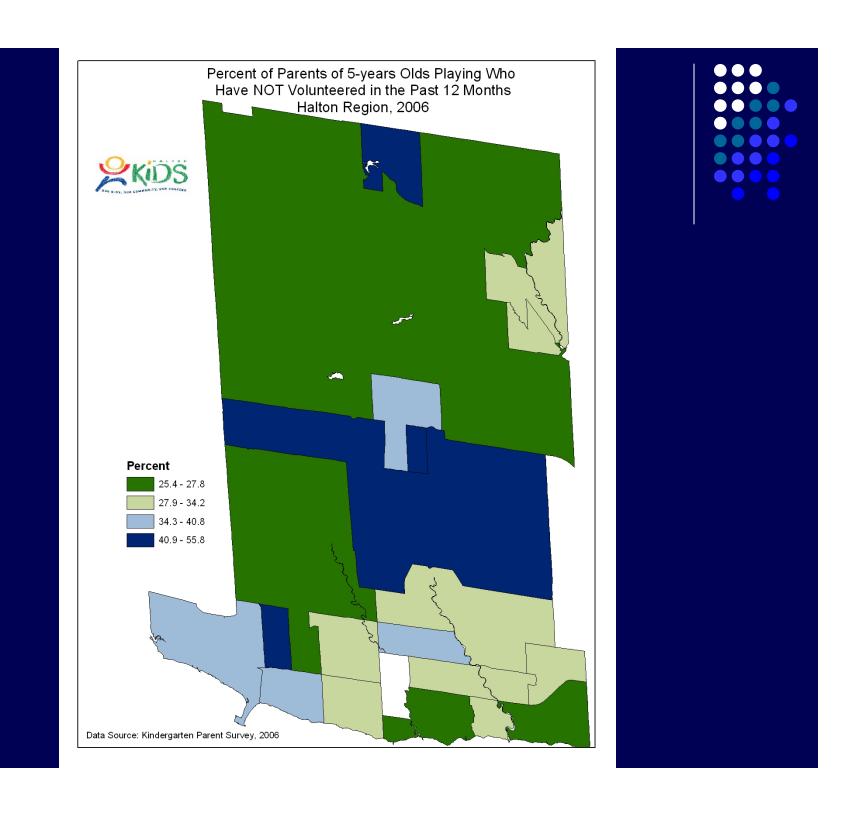


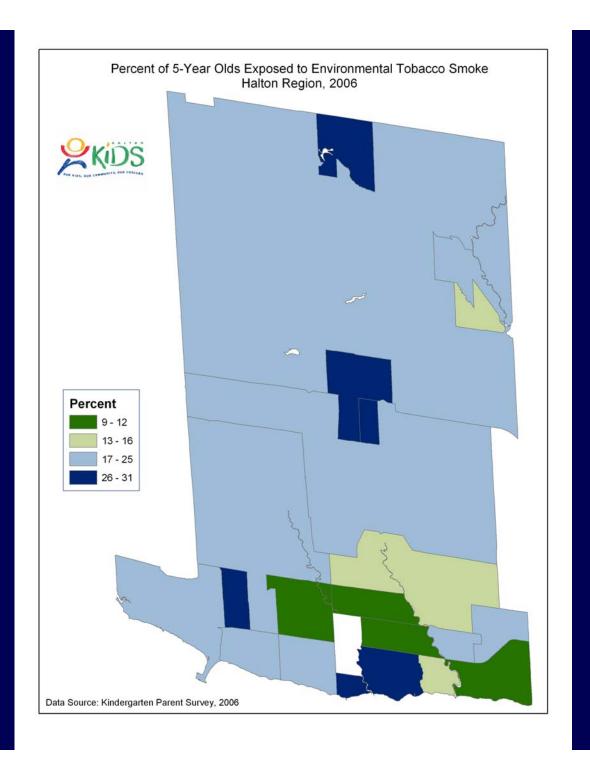




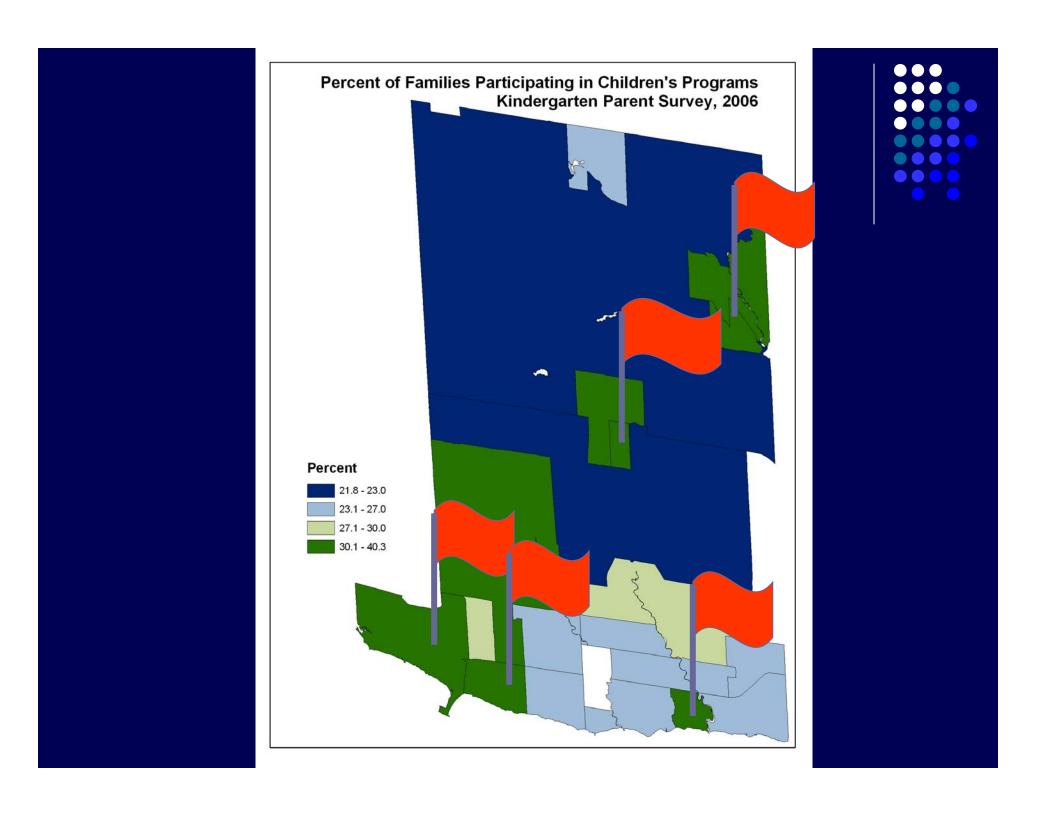












Where can we go with our EDI data?



- 2008 Community Report
 - Compare EDI from 2002, 2005, 2006, 2008
 - Compare neighbourhood data 2005, 2006 & 2008
- Look into the "why" of low EDI at neighbourhood level
- Share with community key stakeholders to improve 'school readiness' of children

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION & FOR YOUR DEDICATION TO THE CHILDREN OF NIAGARA!











