



Ever wonder how our kids are doing???

Want a picture of how Lamont County children are developing?

The government of AB surveyed all kindergarten children in the province to see how they are doing developmentally. This page includes a review of the results of the surveys! The Early Steps to Success coalition has formed in conjunction with this project to improve services for children ages 0-6 in Lamont County. Check us out on Facebook and Twitter! @ESteps2Success

"Never underestimate your ability to make a difference in the life of a child." - Fred Penner

Studying early childhood development in Alberta

Taking the initiative

A child's early development has a lifelong impact on everything from physical and mental health, to educational and career success, ability to form stable, close relationships, and sense of self-confidence and overall well-being. Scientific research shows that the early years (from before birth to age five) are the most critical period of human development and that children's early environments shape the structure of their rapidly growing brains. Creating the nurturing environments essential for healthy development takes a collective effort that involves parents, caregivers, governments, educators, service providers, business people and community members — **the entire village**, in fact.

Measuring the progress of young children can be enormously useful in ensuring that children and their families have the supports they need to thrive and succeed. The Early Child Development (ECD) Mapping Initiative was launched by Alberta Education in 2009 to study early childhood development across Alberta and to engage communities in promoting positive early development. The Early Child Development Mapping Project (ECMap), which is based at the University of Alberta, was contracted by Alberta Education over the course of the five-year initiative to:

- analyze data gathered on the development of preschool children in the province,
- study the socio-economic and community factors that may influence development,
- prepare reports on provincial and community level findings,
- mobilize communities to use the information in local planning and strategies to improve developmental outcomes, and
- provide government with information and recommendations based on research findings.

EDI data has been analyzed for 70,206 kindergarten children from 2009 to 2013. This provides a baseline for future comparison of early childhood development in Alberta. Socio-economic data and information on community resources were also gathered in order to better understand the environments in which young children are being raised in Alberta and how they impact early development.



<p>Analyzed EDI=164</p> <p>Kindergarten children</p> <p>Lamont County Demographics</p> <p>Population: 8219</p> <p>Children 0-4 years: 375</p> <p>Median income in 2005 of population 15 years and older: \$22458.50</p> <p>Unemployment rate: 4.3%</p> <p>Female labor force participation rate: 60.8%</p> <p>Percentage of residents with first language other than English/French: 15.9%</p> <p>Percentage of immigrants: 4.9%</p> <p>Based on Stats Canada 2006 census data.</p>	<p>Developing Appropriately in <u>ALL</u> areas of development</p> <p>Lamont County 60.4 % (Alberta 46.4 %)</p> <p>Experiencing great difficulty in one or more and two or more areas of development</p> <p><u>Canada</u>: 25.4% experiencing great difficulty in one or more areas of development, 12.4 % experiencing great difficulty in two or more areas of development</p> <p><u>Alberta</u>: 28.9% experiencing great difficulty in one or more areas of development, 14.7 % experiencing great difficulty in two or more areas of development</p> <p><u>Lamont County</u>: 23.2% experiencing great difficulty in one or more areas of development, 9.8 % experiencing great difficulty in two or more areas of development</p>
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Emotional Maturity



Lamont County

72.0% Developing appropriately
 15.2% Experiencing difficulty
 12.8% Experiencing great difficulty

Alberta

73.9% Developing appropriately
 15.0% Experiencing difficulty
 10.8% Experiencing great difficulty

Communications and General Knowledge

Lamont County

87.8% Developing appropriately
 3.7% Experiencing difficulty
 8.5% Experiencing great difficulty

Alberta

68.6% Developing appropriately
 16.7% Experiencing difficulty
 14.6% Experiencing great difficulty

Physical Health and Well-being



Lamont County

79.9% Developing appropriately
 9.1% Experiencing difficulty
 11.0% Experiencing great difficulty

Alberta

75.9% Developing appropriately
 10.8% Experiencing difficulty
 13.3% Experiencing great difficulty

Social Competence



Lamont County

78.0% Developing appropriately
 17.1% Experiencing difficulty
 4.9% Experiencing great difficulty

Alberta

75.2% Developing appropriately
 13.3% Experiencing difficulty
 9.7% Experiencing great difficulty

Language and Thinking Skills

Lamont County

76.8% Developing appropriately
 15.2% Experiencing difficulty
 7.3% Experiencing great difficulty

Alberta

76.8% Developing appropriately
 13.5% Experiencing difficulty
 9.6% Experiencing great difficulty



Think about your child's development. Do you need support or resources? Do you have any ideas of how the Early Steps to Success coalition can help your family continue to support the development of healthy children? Do you have questions about these results? Feel free to e-mail leah.j@lamontcounty.ca We welcome your questions and suggestions!

For the full results and more information on ECMap go to:

<https://www.ecmap.ca/Findings-Maps/Community-Results/Community-Results-for-Northern-Alberta/Pages/Lamont-County.aspx>