

EDI – Early Development Instrument

A snapshot of how young children are developing

What we know about early childhood development in Lethbridge

The Alberta Government launched the Early Childhood Development Mapping Project to gather and analyze information related to child development.

The results give us a snapshot of how children in Lethbridge are doing, with the ability to compare Lethbridge results to the provincial average. It also allows us to identify which sub-communities of Lethbridge are in greater need.

Five areas of development were assessed:

- Physical Health and Well-being
- Social Competence
- Emotional Maturity
- Language and Thinking Skills
- Communication Skills and General Knowledge

In Lethbridge, 1785 children Kindergarten aged were assessed.

In the area of Physical Health and Well-being, 24.9% of children in Lethbridge were found to be experiencing difficulty or experiencing great difficulty. This is very similar to the provincial average of 24.1%.

More specifically, there was a larger range when looking at the sub-communities in Lethbridge, with between **17.9% and 35.8%** experiencing difficulty or great difficulty.

In response to these concerning results, the Lethbridge Early Years Coalition, the Lethbridge Sport Council and the Lethbridge Public Library have launched a free program for children age 2-5. **"Roving Gyms" offer a free indoor play space, encouraging physical literacy and allowing families to connect with other families.**

To view the full EDI results, and the rest of the Lethbridge results, and for more details on the roving gym initiative, visit lethbridgeearlyyears.ca

