

# School District 75

Mission

2001 and 2006 Canadian Census of Population 1998 and 2004 Taxfiler Variables

#### NOTE:

Statistics Canada information is used with the permission of Statistics Canada. Information on the availability of the wide range of data from Statistics Canada can be obtained from Statistics Canada's Regional Offices, its website at http://www.statcan.gc.ca, and its toll-free access number 1-800-263-1136.

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Full information available online at: www.earlylearning.ubc.ca



## Human Early Learning Partnership

The University of British Columbia - Simon Fraser University University of Victoria - University of Northern British Columbia





## What is Socio-Economic Status (SES)?

Socio-economic status (SES) is used to describe a variety of social and economic conditions within a geographic area of residence. For example, income, employment and education are most commonly used to determine the general SES of individuals, neighbourhoods or communities. Other factors also have important effects on SES, including ethnicity, language, citizenship, etc.

## Why is SES important important?

In Canada, child development is influenced by various socioeconomic circumstances that have created a "developmental gradient" (i.e. an incremental, step-wise trend) that moves along the socio-economic spectrum.

In Canada, inequalities in child development emerge in a systematic fashion over the first five years of life according to well-organized factors: family income, parental education, parenting style, neighbourhood safety and cohesion, neighborhood socioeconomic differences, and access to quality child care and developmental opportunities. By age 5, a 'gradient' in early child development emerges, such that, as one goes from the families with the lowest to highest incomes; least to most parental education; and least to most nurturing and interactive parenting style, the average quality of early child experiences increases.<sup>1</sup>

### What socio-economic data does HELP use?

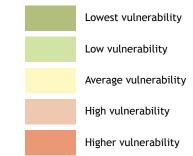
For the ECD Mapping Project, HELP selects and maps socioeconomic indicators that are useful for understanding the characteristics of a neighborhood and how those characteristics might influence early child development. This includes population data for over 1,200 variables from the 2001 and 2006 Census. HELP has also uses some 1998 and 2004 income tax records and has access to administrative data on child care services. All records are processed by the same neighbourhood and school district boundaries that are used to analyze the EDI results. This allows communities to consider relationships between the EDI results and the socio-economic character of their local neighbourhoods.

## How are the variables mapped?

HELP's EDI mapping follows a Green to Red colour scheme based on Provincial Time 1 Quintiles. This means that all neighbourhoods were placed into five equal sized groups based on their Time 1 EDI vulnerability results. This is considered the baseline.

The SES and policy components in this map package follow this Green to Red colour scheme to indicate their relationship to neighbourhood EDI vulnerability.

#### EDI Vulnerability Colour Classification



<sup>1</sup> Clyde Hertzman, Sidney A. McLean, Dafna E. Kohen, Jim Dunn, Terry Evans, *Early Development in Vancouver: Report of the Community Asset Mapping Project (CAMP)*. (Vancouver: HELP, 2002) pg.3 www.earlylearning.ubc.ca/documents/vancouverreport.pdf

# About the SES Index



## What is the SES Index?

The SES Index provides one value for each neighbourhood that summarizes its SES based on the components that are most important in predicting developmental vulnerability.

## How was the SES Index created?

About 60 theme-based components were used to model how SES relates to vulnerability on the different EDI scales for HELP's 478 neighbourhoods. Statistical analysis revealed a distinct set of components that relate to vulnerability for each EDI scale. The eight strongest components over all scales were chosen to form the HELP SES Index.

Each component contributes equally to the Index.



## What does the SES Index measure?

SES Component	Sample Variables in Each Component
Wealth: Families with Children	% families with young children who declared investment income % families with young children who declared charitable donations
Employment	Employment rate, females aged 15 and older Unemployment rate, people with children under 6
Residential Stability	Home ownership rate % people who moved in the past year
Poverty: Women Only Earners	% couple families with young children, female only income % couple families without young children, female only income
Lone Parents	% lone female families % lone male families
Housing Density	% of dwellings that are single detached houses % of dwellings that are apartments over 5 stories
Population Diversity	% with a foreign language spoken at home % first generation Canadian
Women in Manufacturing	% of females in manufacturing, processing & utilities occupations

## What other variables are mapped?

Component	Sample Variables in Each Component
Population < 5 Years of Age	% families with young children who declared investment income % families with young children who declared charitable donations
Education	% of people aged 20 and older with a university degree % of people aged 20 and older with no high school graduation
Policy: Social Assistance	% families with young children receiving social assistance % families without young children receiving social assistance
Policy: Government Transfers	Median government transfers, families with young children Median government transfers, families without young children

