

## **Offord Centre's 10th percentile cut-off from 2008 national cohort VERSUS HELP's cut-offs published 2006**

### **Domains**

<b>Physical Health and Well-Being</b>	<b>7 vs 7.12</b>
<b>Social Competence</b>	5.58 vs 5.58
<b>Emotional Maturity</b>	6.00 vs 5.83
<b>Language and Cognitive Development</b>	5.77 vs 5.38
<b>Communication Skills and General Knowledge</b>	3.75 vs 4.72

HELP – 2006 - BC Atlas of Child Development P 26 [http://www.earlylearning.ubc.ca/wp-uploads/web.help.ubc.ca/2010/02/BCAtlasofChildDevelopment\\_CD\\_22-01-06.pdf](http://www.earlylearning.ubc.ca/wp-uploads/web.help.ubc.ca/2010/02/BCAtlasofChildDevelopment_CD_22-01-06.pdf)

### **Offord Centre – 2008 – p.3**

#### **SCHOOL READINESS TO LEARN NATIONAL SK COHORT RESULTS**

#### **Based on the Early Development Instrument Data Collection for Senior**

#### **Kindergarten Students in Canada**

#### **Spring 2008**

[http://www.offordcentre.com/readiness/pubs/2008\\_11\\_12\\_National\\_SK\\_Cohort.pdf](http://www.offordcentre.com/readiness/pubs/2008_11_12_National_SK_Cohort.pdf)

HELP says (p 26 above) that the 10th percentile cut offs "shifted slightly over the past several years". So the strict 'percentile' method was dropped, or rather "permanently fixed" "as a result of our work in BC": thus HELP does not explain how its cut offs were finally exactly derived/selected.

Offord Centre - "The EDI was completed for 45,379 non-special needs Senior Kindergarten students in Canada. The table below illustrates the descriptive statistics of the Canadian cohort."

A higher cut-offs mean more children will fall below the cut-off.

More children below even one cut-off out of the 5 increases the overall "vulnerability" rate.

The "cut-offs" were originally based on (equal to) the 10th percentile - ie the lowest 10 percent of scores - on the Offord Centre's "national cohort" (some provinces did not participate eg Que).

(Have not yet found a document explaining how EDI questions are scored)

Using different cut-offs means changing the 'baseline' and makes comparison of "vulnerability" rates very difficult. It renders statements like 'vulnerability is rising' meaningless.

What were the "vulnerability" cut-offs HELP used in 2003, 2006, 2009, 2010?

Have the cut-offs changed?

How have the cut-offs changed?

What effect do the changes have on HELP's over-all "vulnerability" rate? do they raise or lower it?

Were "special needs" children included in HELP's calculations? (they were not in Offord calculations)