

# Early Development Index Overview

A teacher-completed assessment of children's readiness for kindergarten. First 5 Orange County partners with school districts to gather the data; analyzes it; and works with families and the community to make meaning of it. The EDI includes five developmental domains.

## Physical Health & Well-Being

- Displays adequate nutrition and absence of impairment
- Has necessary gross and fine motor abilities to complete grade-level tasks, like holding a pencil or turning pages

## Social Competence

- Able to control their behavior, appropriate to age
  - Cooperates with others
- Shows respect for adult authority
  - Communicates feelings and needs

## Emotional Maturity

- Balances curiosity and eagerness with some ability to reflect before acting
  - Not fearful or reluctant to engage in new activities

## Language & Cognitive Development

- Developmentally appropriate vocabulary size
  - Able to name letters and identify components of sounds
  - Capacity to perceive, organize, and analyze information

## Communication Skills & General Knowledge

- Able to understand verbal communications
- Able to verbally communicate experiences, ideas, wishes, and feelings

## Here's how First 5 and our partners use the EDI:

To inform our policies and investments for young children and their families.

As a springboard to engage families around their children's needs and desired outcomes for their communities.

To leverage our work with system partners. For example, to validate the need to invest in early childhood mental health, to promote well-child visits and developmental screens, or to fund business assistance for child care providers.

## How can you use the EDI data?

The EDI is available at: [first5OC.org/resources/edi/](https://first5OC.org/resources/edi/)