Characteristics and Early Development Instrument outcomes for children not linked to the Registered Persons Database

Comparing children who were not linked to the Ontario Registered Persons Database (RPDB) with children who were successfully linked, there were similar proportions of females (49.8 vs. 50.0%, respectively; $P = 0.44$) in each group, but children not linked to the RPDB were more likely to speak English as a second language (12.4 vs. 11.5%; $P < 0.001$) and be aboriginal (2.0 vs. 1.1%; $P < 0.001$).

Children who were not linked to the RPDB had lower mean performance scores in individual Early Development Instrument (EDI) domains and had higher rates of vulnerability in all major domains of the EDI. There were also increased rates of both early developmental vulnerability and multiple challenge index in children not linked to the RPDB compared with children who were successfully linked (table).

Table. Early Development Instrument domain scores and vulnerability in children not linked to unique observations in the Ontario Registered Persons Database compared with linked children.

Outcomes	Groups		SMD or ARD	*P*
	Not linked (n=57 922)	**Linked (n=259,247)**		
EDI domain scores, *M(SD)*				
Physical health and well-being	8.75 ± 1.35	8.95 ± 1.22	-0.16	<0.001
Social knowledge and competence	8.20 ± 1.86	8.45 ± 1.73	-0.14	<0.001
Emotional health and maturity	7.97 ± 1.55	8.15 ± 1.46	-0.12	<0.001
Language and cognitive development	8.49 ± 1.81	8.77 ± 1.60	-0.17	<0.001
Communication skills and general knowledge	7.61 ± 2.55	7.94 ± 2.41	-0.13	<0.001
Early developmental vulnerability, %	32.1	25.4	6.7	<0.001
Multiple challenge index, %	4.3	2.8	1.5	<0.001
EDI domains in the lowest 10^{th} centile, %				
Physical health and well-being	16.5	12.2	4.3	<0.001
Social knowledge and competence	10.8	8.2	2.6	<0.001
Emotional health and maturity	12.0	9.5	0.5	<0.001
Language and cognitive development	10.7	7.4	3.3	<0.001
Communication skills and general knowledge	13.0	10.1	2.9	<0.001

EDI = Early Development Instrument; SMD = standardized mean difference; ARD = absolute risk difference