Working with the BC Schools - Examinations Results extract from Data BC

Understanding BC Schools - Examinations Results data extract	Read the following documents: • *BC Schools - Examinations Results_field_definitions* • Ministry of Education data masking policy
How can I work with this data set in Microsoft Excel?	The following tutorials may be helpful: • Importing text (.txt or .csv) files into Excel • Auto-filtering in Excel • Keeping leading zeros and large numbers in Excel

Conventions in this document

BOLDED_WITH_UNDERSCORES	Indicates a column name (for example, **SUB_POPULATION**)
'Text within single quotation marks'	Indicates a column value (for example, 'FEMALE')

Instructions

1. Open your local copy of the file.

2. Apply auto-filtering to the heading row. (This is not essential, but it makes it easier to work with the data when you have more than a screen's worth of rows.)

3. Use the auto-filter on the **DATA_LEVEL** column to select either 'DISTRICT LEVEL', 'PROVINCE LEVEL', or 'SCHOOL LEVEL'.

4. The next column to work with depends on which value you just selected:

   • If you selected 'PROVINCE LEVEL', use **PUBLIC_OR_INDEPENDENT** to set which schools to include in your results (public, independent, or province total).

   • If you selected 'DISTRICT LEVEL', use either **DISTRICT_NUMBER** or **DISTRICT_NAME** to select the district whose results you want to see. (Note that independent schools do not have school districts.)

   • If you selected 'SCHOOL LEVEL', use either **SCHOOL_NUMBER** or **SCHOOL_NAME** to select the school whose results you want to see.

5. Use the auto-filter on **SCHOOL_YEAR** to select data from a specific school year (e.g. '2011/2012').

6. Use **FACILITY_TYPE** to narrow the results by the school type of interest (e.g., for Alternate Schools, choose 'ALTERNATE').

7. Use the **SUBJECT_CATEGORY** column to filter overall subject category.

8. Use **EXAM_SUBJECT** to filter by the course associated with the exam.

9. Use **GRADE** to filter by the grade level of the course associated with the exam.

10. Use **SUB_POPULATION** to select the grouping of interest (for example, 'ALL STUDENTS').

11. Use **MARK_TYPE** to filter by the type of mark (course, exam, or final).

12. To remove all masked data ('Msk'), use the auto-filter to deselect 'Msk' from the aggregate columns (P through AF).

Sample Questions

Question:
In BC in 2015/2016, what percent of independent school students who wrote the English 12 exam earned an A as their FINAL_MARK?

Path to answer:
1. Filter **DATA_LEVEL** to 'PROVINCE LEVEL'
2. Filter **PUBLIC_OR_INDEPENDENT** to 'BC Independent School'
3. Filter **SCHOOL_YEAR** to '2015/2016'
4. Filter **EXAM_SUBJECT** to 'English 12'
5. Filter **SUB_POPULATION** to 'ALL STUDENTS'
6. Filter **MARK_TYPE** to 'FINAL_MARKS'
7. Column V (PERCENT_OF_A) = 28

Question:
How many female students in standard schools received a mark on the Social Studies 11 provincial exam in the Power River school district in 2012/2013?

Path to answer:
1. Filter **DATA_LEVEL** to 'DISTRICT LEVEL'
2. Filter **SCHOOL_YEAR** to '2012/2013'
3. Filter **DISTRICT_NAME** to 'Powell River'
4. Filter **FACILITY_TYPE** to 'STANDARD'
5. Filter **EXAM_SUBJECT** to 'Social Studies 11'
6. Filter **SUB_POPULATION** to 'FEMALE'
7. Filter **MARK_TYPE** to 'EXAM_MARKS'
8. Column P (NUMBER_OF_MARKS) = 73