

Working with the Student Headcount by Home Language extract from Data BC

Understanding the Student Headcount by Home Language data extract	Read the following documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Student Headcount by Home Language field definitions</i>• Ministry of Education data masking policy
How can I work with this data set in Microsoft Excel?	The following tutorials may be helpful: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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, DISTRICT_NUMBER)
'Text within single quotation marks'	Indicates a column value (for example, 'BC Public School')

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 'Province Level', 'District 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 data (public, independent, or province total).
 - If you selected 'District Level', use either **DISTRICT_NUMBER** or **DISTRICT_NAME** to select the district whose data 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 data you want to see.
5. Use **HOME_LANGUAGE** to select the language(s) of interest.
6. Use the auto-filter on **SCHOOL_YEAR** to select data from a specific school year (e.g., '2022/2023').

7. Use **TOP_10** to select ranking.
8. You may wish to sort the results by **NUMBER_OF_STUDENTS** (e.g., largest to smallest)

Sample Questions

Question:

What were the top three home languages spoken by public school students in Quesnel school district in 2022/2023?

Path to answer:

1. Filter **DATA_LEVEL** to 'District Level'
2. Filter **PUBLIC_OR_INDEPENDENT** to 'BC Public School'
3. Filter **DISTRICT_NAME** to 'Quesnel'
4. Filter **SCHOOL_YEAR** to '2022/2023'
5. Column H (**HOME_LANGUAGE**) = English, Tagalog (Philipino), Punjabi

Question:

In Vancouver school district, which public school had the highest number of Mandarin home language speakers in 2023/2024?

Path to answer:

1. Filter **DATA_LEVEL** to 'School Level'
2. Filter **PUBLIC_OR_INDEPENDENT** to 'BC Public School'
3. Filter **SCHOOL_YEAR** to '2023/2024'
4. Filter **DISTRICT_NAME** to 'Vancouver'
5. Filter **HOME_LANGUAGE** to 'Mandarin'
6. Custom sort the worksheet by **NUMBER_OF_STUDENTS**, largest to smallest (remove 'Msk')
7. Column G (**SCHOOL_NAME**) = Lord Byng Secondary (534 students)